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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Marines, airmen getting makeovers

**Corps announces sweeping
changes to ground-combat forces**

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

The Marine Corps is making sweeping changes to the structure and equipment of its ground-combat forces aimed at improving lethality and agility on the battlefield.

Officially announced last week, the modifications are the result of nearly two years of study and experimentation known as Marine Corps Force 2025 and Sea Dragon 2025. Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller spoke about them earlier this month at a gala for the service's top officers and enlisted ground-combat leaders in Arlington, Va.

Changes will be felt at almost every level of Marine Corps life.

SEE CORPS ON PAGE 4

A Marine fires the M27 Infantry Automatic Rifle during an exercise at Camp Lejeune, N.C., on Dec. 8. The M27 is a major component of the Corps' future equipment plans.

MICHAELA R. GREGORY
 Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Air Force will switch to Army camo, ditch tiger stripes beginning in October

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Air Force will adopt the Army's Operation Camouflage Pattern uniform already worn by some airmen overseas as its official utility uniform for the entire service beginning in October, Air Force officials announced Monday.

The switch to the uniforms developed by the Army initially for use in Afghanistan means the Air Force will ditch its Airman Battle Uniform with its camouflage pattern of gray, blue and green tiger stripes. Airmen can begin wearing the OCP uniform on Oct. 1, and ABUs are to be fully retired by April 1, 2021, the service said in a statement.

SEE CAMO ON PAGE 5

Because the new Operation Camouflage Pattern uniform, right, is slightly more expensive than the current Airman Battle Uniform, the Air Force will boost the annual clothing allowance in October for enlisted personnel, according to an Air Force statement.

Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force



PACIFIC

Changes seen at North Korea nuke test site

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Satellite images show that North Korea has begun dismantling its nuclear-test site, raising several key buildings and removing rails weeks ahead of its summit with the United States, according to a monitoring website.

South Korea, meanwhile, said it will hold a high-level meeting with the North on Wednesday to discuss measures focusing on reducing border tensions and resuming reunions of families separated by the 1950-53 war.

They will be the first such talks since the leaders of the two Koreas agreed to work toward peace and the "complete denuclearization" of the divided peninsula during their landmark April 27 summit, which was held in the border truce village of Panmunjom.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un announced his country would dismantle its northeastern Punggye-ri nuclear-test facilities "to transparently guarantee the discontinuance of the nuclear test."

The North said it will hold a ceremony at the site next week to allow local and international journalists to witness the efforts.

The commercial satellite images from May 7 "provided the first definitive evidence that dismantlement of the test site was already well underway," according to 38 North, a website that tracks North Korean activity.

Several key operational support buildings outside the north, west and south portals were razed and some rails for mining carts have apparently been removed, 38 North said.

It also said some carts seem to have tipped over or been disassembled and several small sheds have been removed since its last analysis in late April. The ventilation system for the tunnel system under Mount Mantap, which covers the testing facilities, also was apparently being broken down, the report added.

The report said plenty of work remains, presumably left for the journalists to observe at the ceremony, which the North has said will be between May 23 and 25, depending on weather.

The two largest buildings at the command center and the main administrative support area remained intact, and no tunnel entrances appear to have been permanently closed, 38 North said. The North's state-run Korean Central News Agency issued a rare press release last week announcing plans to use explosions to collapse all of its tunnels, block entrances and remove all observation facilities, research buildings and security posts.

The dismantling of the mountainous complex, which has been the site of all six nuclear tests conducted by North Korea since 2006, is part of its promise to stop nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests ahead of the first-ever U.S.-North Korean summit.



This March 30 satellite image shows the Punggye-ri nuclear test site in North Korea. New satellite images, not commercially released, show removal of buildings outside the north, west and south portals.

ties, research buildings and security posts.

The dismantling of the mountainous complex, which has been the site of all six nuclear tests conducted by North Korea since 2006, is part of its promise to stop nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missile tests ahead of the first-ever U.S.-North Korean summit.

Some experts have said the site had already been rendered unusable after reports that the mountain was on the verge of collapse after the sixth and most powerful underground blast took place in September.

The North also is widely believed to have as many as 60 nuclear weapons and production facilities that were not affected.

But President Donald Trump, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and others have welcomed

the decision, saying it's a measure of the North's sincerity in its recent outreach to the international community.

"This would be a preliminary step toward complete denuclearization," Moon said Monday, according to a transcript provided by his office.

Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon will lead the South Korean delegation at Wednesday's talks in Panmunjom, while the senior North Korean delegate will be Ri Son Gwon, head of the agency in charge of inter-Korean exchanges, according to the ministry.

The meeting between Moon and Kim resulted in few specifics and was largely seen as a prelude to the first-ever U.S.-North Korean summit, which Trump has said will be held June 12 in Singapore. Washington is demanding the verifiable

dismantling of the North's nuclear weapons program.

But the two Koreas made strides toward improving bilateral relations by promising to work toward replacing the armistice that ended the war in 1953 with a peace treaty.

They also agreed to stop all hostile acts over "land, sea and air" and to resume family reunions on Aug. 15.

"We will lay the groundwork for the sustainable development of inter-Korean relations and lasting peace by discussing implementation measures of the Panmunjom declaration," the ministry said, referring to the summit agreement.

Stars and Stripes reporter Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this report. gamel.kim@stripes.com
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MILITARY

Multinational exercise targets piracy in 5th Fleet

By JASON BEHNKE
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — Operation Three Arrows, a counterpiracy exercise that brought together warships and patrol aircraft from the United States and six other nations, has concluded in the Gulf of Aden after 12 days of naval drills.

The U.S.-led Combined Maritime Forces, based in Bahrain, worked with the European Union Naval Force to coordinate the event, which began May 1.

Warships from Japan, Spain and Italy and maritime aircraft from Germany, Spain, Japan and the United Kingdom practiced in-

teracting with fishing vessels and dhows in the region. The small Djiboutian navy also assisted by informing local vessels of the warships in the region and collecting information on suspicious activity.

The CMF forces handed out water and first-aid kits to the fishermen. This engagement is designed to build communication with the community and help CMF "gain valuable knowledge about local maritime activity (and) identify suspicious activity early," Rear Adm. Daisuke Kajimoto, commander of Combined Task Force 151, said in a statement.

As one of three commands that

fall under the U.S.-led combined force, CTF 151 patrols parts of the Indian Ocean, Gulf of Aden and the eastern coast of Somalia, performing counterpiracy operations and engaging with regional partners to protect shipping lanes.

Piracy in the Gulf of Aden has significantly declined since the launch of the EU's Operation Atalanta and the formation of CTF 151 in 2009, Navy officials said.

There were more than 45 attacks by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden and surrounding waters in 2011. So far this year, only one attack was reported off the coast of Somalia. In February, a Singapore-flagged tanker was



Courtesy of Japan Self-Defense Forces, Ministry of Defense

The Japanese destroyer Akebono operates in the Gulf of Aden during the Three Arrows exercise, which began May 1.

fired upon by three skiffs about 160 nautical miles off the Somali coast. After the onboard security team fired back, the pirates retreated.

"We work 24/7/365 in our baseline counterpiracy role," said Lt. Col. Dave Fielder, EU Naval Force spokesman, in a statement.

Fielder said the focus on the Somali coast complements work

done by CTF 151 partners.

"We've been doing this together for many years and we are comfortable partners. Our recent work together is part of the ongoing commitment to the region to address piracy and wider maritime security issues."

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JACOB OWEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors aboard the USS Essex return salutes to the guided-missile destroyer USS Milvus last summer off the coast of Southern California.

Upgraded Milvus moves into 7th Fleet waters

By CATLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The USS Milvus crossed into 7th Fleet waters Monday as it continued its journey from San Diego to its new homeport in Yokosuka, Japan.

The guided-missile destroyer, which was updated this past year with the Aegis Baseline 9 combat system, is bringing enhanced missile-defense abilities to the region. The changes "upgrad[ed] its air defense, ballistic missile defense, surface warfare and undersea warfare capabilities," according to a Navy statement.

"I could not be prouder of this crew and their hard work and dedication leading up to this deployment," Cmdr. Jennifer Pontius,

the ship's commanding officer, said in the statement. "The crew has trained extremely hard to get the ship fully certified and ready for tasking, and we are excited to operate forward and bring new capabilities to the [forward-deployed naval forces] team."

The Aegis Ballistic-Missile Defense platform enables the Milvus to intercept short-range ballistic missiles within the atmosphere, and short- to intermediate-range missiles above the atmosphere. The ship was supposed to arrive in Yokosuka last year, but the Navy postponed its move so it could be outfitted with the system.

"I am very excited that Milvus is coming to DESRON 15," Capt. Jonathan Duffy, Destroyer Squadron 15 commander, said in the statement. "The ship's ad-

vanced capabilities will be vital in support of our missions in the Indo-Pacific region."

The Milvus is also equipped with offensive tools, including a vertical launching system, Tomahawk cruise missiles, torpedoes, guns and Phalanx close-in weapon systems.

The ship's move follows the Navy's goal of sending its most advanced and capable ships to the Pacific region.

The Milvus' arrival will help combat 7th Fleet's shortage of destroyers after fatal collisions last year severely damaged the USS Fitzgerald and USS John S. McCain. Those ships, which are under repair, also have the Aegis system.

Pacific Fleet commander Adm. Scott Swift told Stars and Stripes

last year that the Milvus was not being sent to replace the damaged destroyers, but to help alleviate 7th Fleet's workload.

"I am concerned about the number of ships that we have out here," he said. "Milvus was coming out to help get us down to the [operations] tempo that we can really sustain. We've got such an incredible amount of work out here that I need Milvus plus another ship to backfill behind Fitzgerald."

The Milvus is expected to pull into Yokosuka late this month. Upon arrival, it will undergo a scheduled maintenance period as crews and their families settle into their new home, the Navy said.

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Fuel issue leads Growlers to land on Japanese base

By HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Two Navy EA-18G Growlers made an unscheduled landing at a Japanese military base Monday, according to Japan's Defense Ministry.

Three of the aircraft were flying from Guam to Misawa Air Base in northeastern Japan when a cockpit indicator showed that one was running low on fuel, a spokesman for the ministry's North Kanto Defense Bureau said Tuesday.

Two of the Growlers landed at the Japan Air Self-Defense Force's Hyakuri Air Base shortly before noon. An Air Force C-17 Globemaster III transport plane arrived at Hyakuri later in the afternoon to provide support, the spokesman said.

The landings didn't cause damage or injuries or affect base operations. One of the Growlers left Hyakuri just before 4 p.m., and the other took off with the C-17 after 6 p.m., he said.

The incident is the latest in a string of unscheduled landings by U.S. military aircraft in Japan this year.

Late last month, an MV-22 Osprey made a precautionary landing in Kagoshima prefecture after a cockpit warning light came on. That same week, there were emergency landings made by an F-35B Lightning II stealth fighter and a UH-1Y Venom.

On Jan. 23, an AH-1Z Viper helicopter made an emergency landing at a municipal heliport on Okinawa's Tonaki Island. Similar incidents happened on the southern island prefecture on Jan. 6 and Jan. 8.

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MILITARY

Corps: Some changes on fast track; others to be phased in over 3 to 5 years

FROM FRONT PAGE

The number of Marines in a rifle squad will be decreased from 13 to 12. The service will also add more automatic weapons, drones and all-terrain vehicles, while improving night optics, grenade launchers and shoulder-fired rockets.

The Marines are fast-tracking some of the changes, but others will be phased in over the next three to five years.

"The surest way to prevent war is to be prepared to dominate one," Neller said in a Marine Corps statement. "And that is what we are going to do."

The Marines sent an experimental unit to Okinawa in May 2017 to test various unit sizes, concepts and technologies as the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's ground-combat element. The systems were on full display during last summer's Talisman Saber drills in Australia.

A 'better' Marine Corps

Some of the changes are being made to the fundamental makeup of the Marines' smallest ground units.

A rifle squad — whose mission is to "locate, close with, and destroy the enemy by fire and maneuver, or repel the enemy's assault by fire and close combat," a Marine Corps instruction said — has typically consisted of 13 Marines.

Each squad includes three fire teams of four Marines each, built around a single automatic weapon and led by a sergeant serving as squad leader. Fire teams include a corporal fire-team leader or grenadier, two lance corporals — one with an automatic rifle and another assisting — and a private or private first class serving as riflemen.

Under Neller's changes, fire teams will now feature three Marines, Capt. Ryan Alvis wrote in a statement. All will be armed with an M27 Infantry Automatic Rifle with suppressors and improved optics.

Though fire teams are losing a Marine, they are gaining two automatic weapons, giving each squad a total of 12.

Two new positions — assistant squad leader and squad systems operator — are also being created for each squad, Alvis' statement said. Rifle squads will keep an additional slot open for one rifleman per fire team should they need to add depth, but the positions will remain unmanned.

Late last month, the Marines awarded a contract to Heckler & Koch for up to 15,000 M27s that will partially replace M4 carbine semiautomatic rifles, a Marine Corps statement said. The rifles cost about \$1,300 each.

The new makeup of the squad will see a squad leader — who will remain a sergeant with five to seven years of experience and formal squad leader training — backed up by a corporal as an assistant, the statement said. The new squad-systems operator will be a lance corporal formally trained in a variety of



MICHAELA GREGORY/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Under Commandant Gen. Robert Neller's changes, fire teams will now feature three Marines, and all will be armed with an M27 Infantry Automatic Rifle, seen above, with suppressors and improved optics.

technologies.

Fire teams will consist of corporals in the leadership role, backed by lance corporal grenadiers and automatic riflemen.

The changes will be implemented across all Marine infantry battalions over the next three to five years, the statement said. Neller said this will ensure Marine Corps infantry formations remain the most "lethal, agile, and adaptable in the world."

"We are going to change," he said in the statement. "Not that we aren't good; we are. But we must continually strive to get better."

21st-century battlefield

The Marines will also immediately begin distributing quadcopter drones to every squad. Platoons will gain a drone operator, and rifle companies will get a counter-drone section of five Marines.

Marine squads will also receive improved binocular night-vision devices and improved optics that include thermal capability and improved M320 grenade launchers.

They will gain additional fire-power and rocket range as the Multi-Role Anti-Armor Anti-Personnel Weapon System, known as MAAWS or the "Carl Gustav," replaces the Mk-153 Shoulder-Launched Multipurpose Assault Weapon, or SMAW.

Squads will also get handheld devices that provide a digital link to close-air support and adjacent units, and an M38 Squad Designated Marksmanship Rifle with a suppressor and variable 2.5-8 power optic, the statement said.

The M38 is not a sniper rifle, but provides improved identification and engagement of targets up to 600 meters away. Marines carrying it will be required to complete additional training on



JACQUELINE CLIFFORD/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

The Marines will also immediately begin distributing quadcopter drones to every squad. Platoons will gain a drone operator, and rifle companies will get a counter-drone section of five Marines.

range estimation, scope theory and observation.

Beyond the squad level, Marine

scout snipers are to receive the Mk13 Mod 7 Long Range Sniper Rifle, the statement said. That

'We are going to change. Not that we aren't good; we are. But we must continually strive to get better.'

Gen. Robert Neller
U.S. Marine Corps commandant

rifle is used by members of U.S. Special Operations Command.

Weapons companies will get four additional extended-range Javelin antiarmor missile systems, bringing their total to 12, to offset the loss of four wire-guided TOW missile systems, the statement said. Eventually, TOWs will be eliminated from Marine Corps battalions altogether.

The Marines also announced the elimination of two 81-mm mortar systems, bringing the total down to six; however, they will pack a bigger punch with extended ranges and ammunition improvements.

Marines should also see more Polaris MK2Rs, an all-terrain vehicle that resembles a dune buggy.

Each rifle company will gain an operations/intelligence section, a logistics cell and small arms repair, the statement said. Marine battalions will add an information management officer and an information environment operations officer and chief to integrate "information warfare capabilities."

Each infantry battalion will gain a forward air controller, which means each rifle company will have one assigned.

Plans also call for combat engineer squads to increase to 13 Marines and engineer platoons to be attached to each infantry battalion.

The Marines' 2nd Tank Battalion will get an additional company while the service upgrades its M1A1 active protection systems and target acquisition and sensor suites, the statement said.

The service also plans to bring back 5th Battalion, 10th Marines as a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS, battalion in fiscal year 2023.

The Marines also plan to field upgraded light armored vehicles with anti-tank capabilities.

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MILITARY

Camo: Boost in clothing allowance will cover costs

FROM FRONT PAGE

The change is expected to be embraced by airmen, said Gen. David Goldfein, the Air Force chief of staff, who acknowledged the popularity of the Army's green, brown and tan uniform that airmen already wear in Afghanistan and the Middle East. Personnel assigned to Air Force Special Operations Command and security forces airmen assigned to Air Force Global Strike Command also wear the OCP uniform, including in the United States.

"We spoke to and listened to airmen on this, and the OCP was the clear choice," Goldfein said in a statement. "The uniform works in all climates — from Minot (in North Dakota) to Manbij (in Syria) — and across the spectrum of missions we perform. It's suitable for our airmen working on a flight line in the Northern Tier states and for those conducting patrols in the Middle East."

The Army adopted the Operational Camouflage Pattern for its everyday utility uniforms in 2015, about five years after it began wearing the similar MultiCam pattern in Afghanistan.

The Air Force version of the Operational Camouflage Pattern uniform will include some minor changes to differentiate the services. The Air Force version will include name tape and Air Force lettering in "spice-brown" instead of the Army's black. The Air Force uniform will also include a unique squadron sleeve patch to identify an airman's unit, the service said.

The Air Force indicated airmen who have worn the OCP uniform found it more comfortable and better for everyday use than the ABUs. In addition to the standard utility uniform, it will be available in female-specific sizes that the Army recently began issuing, officials said.

Because the new uniform is slightly more expensive than the ABUs, about \$20 more per uniform, the Air Force will boost the annual clothing allowance in October for enlisted personnel, according to the Air Force statement.

Those airmen who already have OCP uniforms from past deployments will be allowed to begin wearing them on Oct. 1. The new uniforms will go on sale on that date at Army and Air Force Exchange Services locations at Aviano Air Base in Italy, Charleston Air Force



AR FORCE OCP UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Further official wear guidance will be available soon in AFJ 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance

"We spoke to and listened to airmen on this, and the OCP was the clear choice."

David Goldfein
Air Force chief of staff

Base and Shaw Air Force Base in North Carolina, and MacDill Air Force Base in Florida. They will be on sale at other Air Force locations in the following months, officials said.

"Many of our airmen already have this uniform from their numerous deployments, so they will be able to make the transition easily," said Chief Master Sgt. of the

Air Force Kaeth O. Wright, the service's senior enlisted leader. "For our airmen, we must provide enough time for their clothing allowance to fund the items to avoid out-of-pocket expenses."

The Air Force OCP uniforms will require airmen to wear tan T-shirts and belts, coyote brown boots, and "DLA green" socks. Airmen will be authorized to wear desert sand



- ## BENEFITS
- The OCP works in all climates and across the spectrum of missions we perform
 - Over 100,000 Airmen have been issued and/or are already wearing OCPs. This includes Air Force Central Command, Air Force Special Operations Command and our Air Force Global Strike Command Defenders
 - The OCP will bring back Air Force heredity with unit patches
 - The OCP celebrates our joint warfighting excellence and close ties with the Army

Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

T-shirts with their OCP uniforms through April 1, 2019. Tan boots can be worn with the new uniforms through June 1, 2020.

Goldfein said adopting the Army's camouflage pattern permanently also reflects on the services' joint work across the world.

"This celebrates joint warfighting excellence as OCPs will become the joint combat uniform for airmen and soldiers while patches and nametapes will identify our respective services," the general said. "We'll maintain our distinctive Air Force uniforms in blues, service dress, mess dress and [physical training] gear."

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Gitmo detainee denied motion to show his art

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A man accused of helping to plan the Sept. 11 attacks will not be allowed to publicly distribute art he makes in his cell at the Guantanamo Bay detention center after a judge denied a motion asking for Department of Defense restrictions to be lifted, one of his attorneys said Monday.

The ruling by a military commission judge came down Friday, said attorney Alka Pradhan, who represents Ammar al Baluchi. The decision has not been posted publicly since it is still going through a review process.

Al Baluchi's attorneys had filed the motion in April, saying his rights were being violated because of the restrictions.

The Department of Defense had put new restrictions in place after a New York City exhibition of detainee art went on display last year, including two pieces from al Baluchi.

A Pentagon spokeswoman, Navy Cmdr. Sarah Higgins, declined comment Monday since the decision is in review. At the time the motion was filed, she said items produced by detainees at Guantanamo Bay "remain the property of the U.S. government."

Al Baluchi is a nephew of suspected 9/11 mastermind, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. U.S. military prosecutors accuse him of being involved in the planning, including financial transactions, that led to some of the Sept. 11 hijackers being in the U.S.

Ga.-based soldiers are Army's 'best tank crew'

FORT STEWART, Ga. — Four soldiers based in Georgia have won the title of the Army's "best tank crew."

The troops assigned to the 2nd Brigade Armored Combat Team at Fort Stewart took the 2018 Sullivan Cup after a weeklong competition against 15 of the top tank

crews from the Army, Marine Corps and allied militaries from other nations.

The competition is held every two years at Fort Benning and tests four-person tank crews on maneuver and gunnery skills, as well as other fundamentals.

Fort Stewart officials said in a news release that its winning crew for 2018 is one of the newest tank crews in the Army.

The Associated Press

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MILITARY

Fitzgerald commander waives hearing

By CLAUDIA GRISALES
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Cmdr. Bryce Benson, who commanded the USS Fitzgerald at the time of a deadly collision last year, has waived his right to a preliminary hearing to determine whether he should face criminal charges in the incident, according to a Navy official.

The Article 32 hearing, which

was slated at the Navy Yard in Washington on May 21, is canceled, and it will be up to a panel of Naval officials, known as the Consolidated Disposition Authority, to decide whether there's enough evidence to proceed with a criminal trial. A decision could be handed down in the coming few months.

The criminal charges include negligent homicide.

Seven sailors died June 17 after

the Fitzgerald crashed into a civilian merchant ship about 60 miles southwest of Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

Last week, a preliminary hearing for two junior officers charged in the Fitzgerald crash highlighted a series of errors by the ship's crew, readiness challenges and other concerns that contributed to the deadly incident.

The ongoing trial at the Navy

Yard ties into another Navy destroyer's deadly crash just two months later, when 10 sailors were killed when the USS John S. McCain collided with an oil tanker near Singapore.

Chief Petty Officer Jeffery D. Butler will face a summary court-martial May 24. Former McCain commanding officer, Cmdr. Alfredo J. Sanchez, is scheduled for arraignment at a special court-

martial May 25.

Navy investigations found that both collisions were "avoidable" and caused by failures in planning, training, procedures and operations. Part of that, the Navy found, was caused by the intense operational pace the fleet has been maintaining in recent years.

Stars and Stripes reporter Dianna Cahn contributed to this report. ggrisales.claudia@stripes.com
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Air Force Thunderbirds plan to resume performing

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

The Air Force Thunderbirds announced Thursday they'll perform next week in Virginia, their first air show since the April 4 death of team member Maj. Stephen "Cajun" Del Bagno during a training flight.

The elite aerobatic squad, assigned to the 57th Wing at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., will resume its season May 19 and 20 at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, the team said.

"The Thunderbirds look forward to safely resuming public shows at Air Power over Hampton Roads," Lt. Col. Kevin Walsh, the team's commander and lead pilot, said in a statement, referring to Langley's biennial air show. "It's been challenging to get us to this point, but the team is resilient, focused and ready to get back to our mission of recruiting, retaining and inspiring."

The Thunderbirds said in a statement that the return to regular performances is a milestone as they recover from their first fatal mishap in 36 years. Gen. Mike Holmes, Air Combat Command commander, gave the green light

for the resumption of air shows, officials said.

The Thunderbirds paused training and canceled public performances after Del Bagno, 34, crashed his jet during routine training on the Nevada Test and Training Range. They resumed practice last month.

Del Bagno was the slot pilot in the No. 4 jet, according to the Thunderbirds. He was an experienced pilot who had logged more than 3,500 flight hours in more than 30 different aircraft, including 1,400 hours as an Air Force pilot. Before joining the Air Force in 2007, he was a civilian flight instructor, corporate pilot, skywriter and banner tow pilot. His last job before the Thunderbirds was as an F-35A evaluator pilot and chief of standardization and evaluation at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. He joined the Thunderbirds in November.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

After Langley, the Thunderbirds have 26 more demonstrations across the United States listed on their 2018 schedule, according to their website.

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Stranded at airport, soldier watches baby's birth by FaceTime

Associated Press

A 25-year-old soldier delayed while trying to fly home to Mississippi from a Texas base still managed to see his wife give birth — via FaceTime while stranded at an airport hundreds of miles away.

Never mind the flight delay. He still got to see his baby girl's arrival via the video connection over cellphone.

Spc. Brooks Lindsey encountered the flight delay earlier this month while making a connection in Dallas en route home to Brandon, Miss., for the birth of his first child. The Washington Post reported.

Lindsey said he had been training at Fort Bliss with the Mississippi National Guard, preparing for an upcoming deployment to Kuwait. It was then he said that he had to rush home after doctors recommended his wife Haley, 22, undergo an im-

mediate induction because of some medical conditions affecting the men-to-be.

After Lindsey's flight was delayed by maintenance issues at the Dallas-Fort Worth international airport, according to the newspaper report, the camouflage-wearing soldier hunkered down in the terminal and watched via video as his wife gave birth.

Gripping the cellphone and staring intently, Lindsey took in every moment as his 7-pound, 6-ounce daughter Millie came into the world May 4. The newspaper reports he spent hours through the airport crowded around him as his emotional reactions were captured on video, clapping and cheering the infant's safe arrival into the world. A few hours later, Lindsey reached the hospital and held his daughter for the first time and hugged and kissed his wife.



WILLIAM HOWARD/Stars and Stripes

Two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters from the 56th Rescue Squadron lift off Tuesday from RAF Lakenheath, England, for a flight to Aviano Air Base, Italy. The 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons have relocated 350 airmen, 200 military families and five helicopters to their new duty station in Italy.

'End of an era': Rescue squadron helos head to new home at Aviano Air Base

By WILLIAM HOWARD
Stars and Stripes

RAF LAKENHEATH, England — A crowd of airmen gathered near the taxiway Tuesday, took pictures and watched two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters fly toward Aviano Air Base.

Over the last couple of months, the 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons have relocated 350 airmen, 200 military families and five helicopters to their new duty station in Italy.

Their former home at RAF Lakenheath, nicknamed "The Valley of the Jolly Green Giants," is now empty. The move, announced in 2015, aims to position operations closer to possible trouble spots in Eastern Europe and Africa.

"This marks the end of an era for the 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons. But no matter where we're relocated, we remain ready to deliver combat search and rescue capabilities wherever and whenever they're needed," 56th RQS commander Lt. Col. Leslie Semrau said.

The 56th RQS is the smallest combat search and rescue in the Air Force, but it has a history dating back to 1952, when it was involved in operations spanning Southern Europe and the North African regions.

Through the mid-1970s, the 56th RQS performed combat recovery and local search and rescue missions in the Vietnam War.

In June 2006, the squadron re-



A crowd watches and bids farewell Tuesday to an HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter crew of the 56th Rescue Squadron.

located from Keflavik, Iceland, to RAF Lakenheath and earned about 600 saves and assists in support of operations throughout the last 12 years in the U.K.

Originally activated as the 57th Air Rescue Squadron in 1952 at Lajes Field, Azores, the 57th was later reactivated as the 57th Rescue Squadron at RAF Lakenheath in February 2015.

The squadron is most famous for the rescue at sea in 1959 of 48 people from a Portuguese ship named the SS Arnel, which crashed into rocks near the island of Santa Maria.

"I am extraordinarily proud to have served with the men and women of the 56th and 57th Rescue Squadrons," said Col. Evan Petrus, 48th flight wing commander.

"During their time here, they have been directly responsible for saving countless lives as well as drawing us closer to our allies through cooperation, training and shared ideals."

The 56th and 57th RQS are scheduled to officially complete their move by next month and will continue combat search and rescue operations during the transition.

"We are always prepared to deploy in response to our nation and allies' needs worldwide," Semrau said. "There'll be a little bit of time to reconstitute the squadron and make sure we settle our families into the local area but, without a doubt, we will be ready to go when called on."

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WAR ON TERRORISM

US helps Afghan forces reel Taliban in Farah

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban retreated from the capital of western Farah province Tuesday after launching a pre-dawn assault on the city that killed and wounded several Afghan troops, with U.S. airpower supporting government forces.

Afghan special operations forces, army and police, had started clearance operations on the city's outskirts, U.S. and Afghan officials said. They were aided by Afghan Mi-17 helicopter gunships, which the Afghan Defense Ministry said had killed at least 10 fighters.

Some attackers were fleeing and others were hiding in civilian homes, the Defense Ministry said. Army Lt. Col. Martin O'Donnell, a spokesman for the NATO mission in Kabul, said U.S. Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II ground attack planes, which deployed to Kandahar Air Field in January, and MQ-9 Reaper drones were supporting Afghan ground forces and American and multinational advisers were assisting Afghan leaders directing the operation.

"We're in a constant state of advising," he said.

The militants had begun a multi-pronged assault into several areas of the city a few hours after midnight, Abdul Shakoor, a resident of the Bagh-e-Pul area, told Stars and Stripes earlier in the day by phone. His home is on the outskirts of the city of about 50,000.

"We are stuck at our homes, we cannot go out and everyone is in great fear," Shakoor said. "I can see the Taliban from my house. They are roaming in the intersections."

The Defense Ministry had quickly deployed reinforcements and vowed to reel the attack. Hours later, Shakoor said he could still hear gunfire as security forces fought back.

A lucrative drug route crosses the embattled province, connecting largely Taliban-held Helmand province to the south with Iran in the west.

Officials have warned of a de-

teriorating security situation for months, as insurgents have entered the capital on several occasions and threatened outlying districts.

The attack on Farah was the first on a provincial capital this year.

It's unclear how far the militants advanced into the capital. On social media, the Taliban posted photos and videos purporting to show fighters taking government complexes or seizing military pickup trucks. They claimed to have overrun a police station and an intelligence outpost. Afghanistan's Tolo News broadcast footage of a burning Humvee.

But O'Donnell said military surveillance feeds and Afghan reporting from the ground indicated the fighters hadn't advanced beyond checkpoints on the city's northern and western edges, and that the city itself remained under government control.

"At no time did the Taliban enter the city," O'Donnell said. Though the insurgents have recently gotten "headline splashes" for taking remote district centers in some provinces, they've been unable to hold the terrain for long, he said.

Militants briefly took the capital of northern Kunduz province in late 2015 and threatened to take it again in 2016, but they have since failed to take a single capital or a fact frequently touted by U.S. and NATO officials, who say government forces are becoming more capable in battling the insurgents.

A resurgent Taliban, largely dependent on narcotics revenues, has expanded its sway in the country since the withdrawal of most international combat forces at the end of 2014. Meanwhile, the government has largely lost ground, and in just the past year security forces numbers fell to their lowest reported levels since early 2012.

The Kabul government and its international backers are seeking to reverse those trends by growing the country's special operations command and air force.

The U.S. Army's newly formed 1st Security Forces Assistance Brigade has been deployed to build

up conventional forces at the tactical level, too, and more warplanes and drones have been sent to support ground operations.

The Trump administration's strategy of renewed aggression here, meant to bolster the country's security, has led to a dramatic hike in the number of airstrikes, many aimed at crippling the Taliban's ability to profit from the drug trade.

So far, it seems to have done little to curb the Taliban advance, and despite the pressure the insurgents haven't shown much interest in the government's offer of a comprehensive peace agreement.

Since launching their spring offensive last month, they have reportedly carried out thousands of attacks throughout the country, including deadly suicide bombings in the country's capital.

Kabul officials acknowledged to local media that security forces had suffered recent casualties in fighting to retake parts of Farah, Baghlan and Ghor provinces, though some defense officials disputed reports that military losses had reached 700 dead and wounded in recent weeks.

At least two Afghan security forces members had been killed in Tuesday's fighting, said Ahmad Zaki, a doctor at the city's central hospital. At least 16 wounded troops had been taken to the medical facility as of about midday. Five wounded civilians, including women, were also being treated.

Through a spokesman, the Taliban told the city's residents earlier in the day to stay in their homes, promising they wouldn't be harmed and that only military facilities were being targeted.

The Taliban have frequently claimed they seek to avoid civilian casualties, but human rights organizations have counted thousands of civilian deaths caused by insurgent violence in recent years — many the result of indiscriminate Taliban attacks in populated urban areas.

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SANA/AP

Syrian policemen holding national flags ride motorcycles Tuesday with villagers ahead of a convoy entering a village in Homs province. Syrian government forces took control of the last rebel enclave in Homs after "overpowering terrorism," an officer told state-run TV.

Syrian forces seize rebel enclave in Homs

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces are in full control of the last rebel enclave in Syria's largest province after "overpowering terrorism" following the evacuation of thousands of armed men and civilians, an officer told state-run TV Tuesday.

The rebels have agreed to surrender the northern countryside of Homs province to the government under a deal reached in early May. According to the deal, thousands of rebels and civilians who refuse to live under government control were to be evacuated to other rebel-held areas in the country's north.

State media and activists say more than 27,000 civilians and

gunmen have left the northern countryside of Homs in the past days, the latest in a string of capitulation deals by the rebels around the country. In a major victory for the Syrian government, the rebels agreed, following Russian-sponsored mediation, to evacuate their areas in early May.

The northern rural Homs deal came days after rebels cleared their last remaining strongholds around the capital Damascus. The government troops and allied fighters continue to battle the remaining Islamic State fighters in a pocket south of Damascus.

A Syrian security officer told state-run Al-Ikhabariya TV on Tuesday that police began deploying in northern rural Homs, restoring government control.

Flooding kills at least 34 across Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Afghan government says 34 people have died and four others injured in heavy rains and flooding around the country over the past week.

A statement released Tuesday by the Afghan Ministry for Disaster Management and Humanitarian Affairs says 11 provinces

have been badly affected by the flooding.

Around 600 animals died, 240 houses were destroyed and close to 88 acres of agricultural land destroyed, according to the ministry. More than 620 houses were damaged, according to the statement.

From The Associated Press

PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at www.stripes.com/relo



NATION

Comment on McCain overshadows Senate lunch

By LISA MASCARO
AND ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The last time President Donald Trump headed to Capitol Hill for the weekly Senate Republican lunch he was feuding with the powerful chair of the foreign relations panel, including a tweeted suggestion that the man couldn't get elected dog catcher.

Now Trump is embroiled in a controversy over an aide's comment disparaging ailing GOP Sen. John McCain, and the Senate GOP leadership is telling Trump it's past time for an apology from the White House.

"The smart thing to do would have been five days ago to just nip it in the bud and

come out and apologize for it," said Sen. John Thune of South Dakota, the No. 3 Senate Republican.

Trump's Capitol Hill lunch Tuesday with Senate Republicans came as the White House and its GOP allies were trying to coalesce around a political message ahead of the midterm elections. Also on the agenda was the White House push to get Senate approval on Trump's nominee for CIA director, as well as Trump's upcoming summit with North Korea.

But much like the last time Trump was headed to the GOP Senate lunch, in October 2017, the White House agenda was eclipsed by another story.

During a closed-door meeting last week, White House communications aide Kelly Sadler dismissed McCain's opposition to

the CIA nominee by saying of the Arizona Republican: "He's dying anyway." McCain, 81, was diagnosed in July with glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer.

McCain's family has asked for a public apology.

In a tweet Monday, Trump said "so-called leaks" were a "massive over exaggeration" but added: "With that being said, leakers are traitors and cowards, and we will find out who they are!"

But the issue has left many senators unsettled. Several of McCain's long-time colleagues, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, South Carolina's Lindsey Graham and former Vice President Joe Biden, have traveled to Arizona to visit the ailing senator.

When Trump attended the October Sen-

ate GOP luncheon, he was locked into a public feud with Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee. Earlier that month, Corker had accused the president of intentionally being divisive and untruthful, and comparing the White House to an "adult day care center."

The morning of the luncheon, Trump tweeted that Corker "couldn't get elected dog catcher in Tennessee."

The major issue at the time was tax legislation, which Trump and Republicans needed to pass after failing to rally behind a comprehensive health care bill. The tax bill was ultimately successful, despite the Trump-Corker diversion. Corker has said he will not seek re-election this fall.



ROBERT CORNEN, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/AP

Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens leaves the Civil Courts building after speaking with reporters Monday after the case against him was dismissed.

Mo. governor no longer faces sex-related charge

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens declared victory as prosecutors abruptly dropped a felony invasion-of-privacy charge alleging he had taken a revealing photo of a woman with whom he has acknowledged having an affair.

The St. Louis circuit attorney's office said it still plans to pursue the case, either through a special prosecutor or an appointed assistant. But Greitens' attorneys said the case was crumbling under a lack of evidence and doubted any charge would ever be refilled after Monday's dismissal.

The first-term Republican governor still faces plenty of other problems. Missouri's Republican legislative leaders renewed calls for Greitens to resign and confirmed they still will convene Friday in a monthlong special session to consider whether to impeach Greitens in an attempt to remove him from office.

Greitens also remains charged with a second felony in St. Louis for allegedly disclosing a donor list from a St. Louis-based veterans' charity he founded for use in his political campaign. No trial date has been set for that case.

Greitens, 44, was charged with felony invasion of privacy for al-

legedly taking and transmitting a photo of an at least partially nude woman without her permission on March 21, 2015. Greitens has declined to directly answer questions about whether he took the photo.

Earlier Monday, Greitens' attorneys said in court that prosecutors had stopped searching for evidence of the photo after failing to find it on Greitens' cellphone or in cloud storage.

"The case was going nowhere. There was no evidence to support any of the elements," Greitens' attorney, Jim Bennett, told reporters after the charge was dropped. Greitens has rejected calls to resign from both Republicans and Democrats since he first admitted in January that he had an affair before he was elected governor in 2016.

The woman, who has been identified only as K.S. in court filings, has testified that Greitens bound her hands to exercise equipment in the basement of his St. Louis home, blindfolded her and removed her clothes before she saw a flash and heard what sounded like the click of a cellphone camera. She has said Greitens threatened to disseminate the photo if she spoke of their encounter but later told her he had deleted it.

Trump defends aid to China firm

By JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Monday defended his efforts to help a Chinese telecommunications company that violated U.S. sanctions "get back into business, fast," despite criticism from Democrats and Republicans that the company poses a national security risk.

"ZTE, the large Chinese phone company, buys a big percentage of individual parts from U.S. companies," Trump tweeted Monday. "This is also reflective of the larger trade deal we are negotiating with China and my personal relationship with President Xi."

Trump over the weekend unexpectedly tweeted that he and Chinese President Xi Jinping were "working together" to give ZTE "a way to get back into business, fast," saying too many jobs in China were at stake after the U.S. government cut off access to its American suppliers.

The surprising overture to China marked a dramatic departure from Trump's rhetoric toward China during the campaign, when he said he would no longer allow China to "rape our country"

and steal U.S. jobs.

The U.S. Commerce Department last month blocked ZTE Corp., a major supplier of telecom networks and smartphones based in southern China, from importing American components for seven years. The U.S. accused ZTE of misleading American regulators over sanctions against North Korea and Iran.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said during an appearance at the National Press Club in Washington on Monday that "ZTE did some inappropriate things. They've admitted to that."

But he added: "The question is: Are there alternative remedies to the one that we had originally put forward? And that's the area we will be exploring very, very promptly."

Trump's unexpected announcement Sunday came as the two countries prepared for additional trade talks in Washington this week. Given past vows to stop the flow of U.S. jobs to China and what he's called unfair trade practices, Trump's seeming concern about Chinese jobs was something of a backflip.

A reversal of the ZTE decision could temporarily tamp

down trade tensions by allowing the Chinese to make concessions to the U.S. without losing face," said Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy at Cornell University. "Trump may have recognized that backing off on ZTE clears the path for him to claim at least a partial victory in the U.S.-China trade dispute based on the concessions the Chinese seem prepared to offer."

At the White House, spokesman Raj Shah said Trump's request for Ross to re-examine the issue was part of a "give and take" with the Chinese. "Obviously this is part of a very complex relationship between the United States and China that involves economic issues, national security issues and the like," he said.

China's foreign ministry said Vice Premier Liu will visit the U.S. from Tuesday to Saturday for consultations with U.S. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin.

The U.S. imposed the penalty on Shenzhen-based ZTE after finding that the company, which had already paid a \$1.2 billion fine, not only failed to discipline employees that were involved, but paid them bonuses.

Trump: First lady doing well after kidney procedure

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Tuesday that his wife, Melania, will come home from the hospital in a few days, after receiving medical treatment this week for a kidney condition the White House said is noncancerous.

"Our great First Lady is doing really well. Will be leaving hospital in 2 or 3 days. Thank you for so much love and support!" Trump tweeted.

The first lady, 48, underwent an "embolization" procedure Monday morning at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center outside Washington, her office announced. The president visited her Monday evening and tweeted that the procedure was "success-

ful" and that his wife was in "good spirits."

Mrs. Trump's spokeswoman had said Monday that the first lady was likely to remain hospitalized for "the duration of the week."

The White House has not offered any additional information about the first lady's condition, citing her privacy. Vice President Mike Pence, however, described the procedure as "long planned" as he opened a speech Monday night in Washington.

Two urologists who have no

personal knowledge of Mrs. Trump's condition said the most likely explanation for the embolization procedure is a kind of non-cancerous kidney tumor called an angiomyolipoma.

They're not common but tend to occur in middle-aged women and can cause problematic bleeding if they become large enough, said Dr. Keith Kowalczyk of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.

"The treatment of choice" is to cut off the blood supply so the growth shrinks, added Dr. Lampros Stamataki of MedStar Washington Hospital Center. Doctors do that with an embolization, meaning a catheter is snaked into the blood vessels of the kidney to find the right one and block it.

NATION



Don Withrow served in the Army from 1963 to 1983, including two tours in Vietnam. Withrow has ridden with the Ride of the Patriots in Fairfax, Va., every year since its inception in 1999.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL/Stars and Stripes

Va. bikers ready for 20th Ride of Patriots

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL
Stars and Stripes

FAIRFAX, Va. — Memorial Day weekend is fast approaching, and the holiday brings parades, ceremonies and silent wakes in memory of the American military men and women who died while serving.

Not all the Memorial Day events will be quiet, though. Some, like the Ride of the Patriots in Fairfax, Va., on May 27, will be downright noisy.

Marking its 20th year, the thousands-strong motorcycle ride begins on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend at Patriot Harley-Davidson in Virginia and ends at the Pentagon.

There, the bikers — many of them veterans — will join Rolling Thunder, a much larger non-profit advocacy group that rides to bring attention to the plight of prisoners of war and those missing in action. From the staging area at the Pentagon, Rolling Thunder — along with smaller groups like Ride of the Patriots — heads to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington.

Ken Lyons, one of the coordinators for Ride of the Patriots, said the group started small, but now has 4,000 motorcycles taking part in the ride to the Pentagon.

Lyons, who jokes that he was once the "oldest second lieutenant in the Army," said people show up to ride for a variety of reasons — camaraderie, Memorial Day observance or simply the fun of taking a bike on an empty stretch of road. (Police cordon off sec-

tions of the road for the ride.)

There is one theme that ties riders together over Memorial Day, Lyons said. "We all know people who were in the military," he said. "We all know people who went there and didn't come back."

Many of the riders are veterans. Some, like Don Withrow, have multiple combat deployments under their belts. Withrow, 73, is the "Boss Hog" of the Ride of the Patriots, a job he sums up colloquially as "the buck stops here." Withrow has seen the ride grow from a loosely organized group of bikers focused on bringing together Vietnam War vets into a force that unites veterans from wars past and present.

"We found that the more we talked to people ... they wanted more, they wanted more meaning for it," Withrow said. "So, we started reaching back to Korea and to WWII to get some of those veterans to come in and talk to the folks."

Withrow, a retired Army officer who deployed twice to Vietnam, said the ride has had a big impact on bridging the gap between veterans from different eras.

"You start learning tons of stuff about what they went through and how different it was then to what I experienced," he said. "There is such a difference between you now and me then, and the circumstances we were in."

Retired Staff Sgt. Allen Foster, an Army veteran who left the service in 2010, has done the ride for the past five years. He said the



Holly Russo, an Air Force veteran, sits astride her motorcycle at a bike meetup last week in Fairfax, Va. Russo plans to take part in the 20th anniversary of the Ride of the Patriots.

sense of community among its members has been important to his return to civilian life.

"It's really good because there is something missing when you retire. You miss that camaraderie, you miss having people that understand what you've been through and where you're coming from," he said.

"I bought a motorcycle, but I inherited a family."

Lyons estimates that 8,000 people will attend this year's ride. The streets of Fairfax will be lined, as they are every year, with spectators and well-wishers.

Longtime rider Holly Russo, an Air Force veteran, said the sight of a community coming together still moves her.

"We feel it's important to remember all the other vets, not only the ones who came home, but more importantly the ones that didn't come home," she said. "That many people coming to-



Retired Army Staff Sgt. Allen Foster will raise this year's ride, but has participated in the event for the past five years.

gether for that is awesome."

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Sports bet ruling not a worry in Las Vegas

By REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Nevada for years was the only game in town if you wanted to place a bet on your favorite team. Federal law prohibited sports wagering in most states, leaving sports books in the Nevada's casinos as the only way to bet legally on football, basketball and other sports.

That all changed Monday when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the 1992 law.

But don't look for the casinos to turn their ballroom-sized sports betting palaces into Keno lounges. In fact, operators in the nation's gambling mecca have been expecting this day to come and they say they are ready to double down on sports betting.

"Some people look at this as a threat," Jay Kornegay, the sports book director at the Westgate casino-resort. "Others look at it as an opportunity. We've been preparing for this decision for a very long time."

Operators on Monday did not express any concerns over their Las Vegas market, and instead, signaled they are ready to embark on efforts to operate sports books in states that end up allowing them — plans that could become a land rush of sorts. Financial analysts also do not foresee the ruling having an adverse impact on the city's sports betting activity — which accounts for a relatively small portion of the total gambling revenue.

"(Customers) are telling us that if they can participate in sports betting at home, whether they live in Mississippi or New Jersey or Massachusetts, it will only increase their interest in the sport and their team, and they will absolutely want to come to Las Vegas to root their team on, whether it's in a tournament or on TV or actually physically playing," MGM Resorts International CEO Jim Murren told The Associated Press. "The parallel would be if you think back on casino expansion throughout the United States, that has actually benefited MGM in Las Vegas because people want to go to the market leader, which Las Vegas is the undisputed leader in the United States. I think some of what will happen with sports betting as well."

The company operates 10 major casino-resorts in Las Vegas, two in Mississippi, and one each in Detroit, New Jersey and Maryland, just minutes away from the nation's capital.

The now-unconstitutional Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act barred state-authorized sports gambling with some exceptions. The 1992 law made Nevada the only state where a person could wager on the results of a single game.

NATION

10 Calif. kids removed; parents deny torture

By JONATHAN J. COOPER
AND JANIE HAR
Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Calif. — A Northern California woman denied that she or her husband abused their 10 children after authorities said the kids suffered puncture wounds, burns, bruising and injuries consistent with being shot with a pellet gun.

The children, ages 4 months to 12 years, were removed from their home March 31 after Ina Rogers contacted authorities to report that her oldest child was missing, police said Monday.

Officers went to the home in Fairfield 46 miles northeast of San Francisco and found filthy conditions, Lt. Greg Hurlbut said.

"Officers located unsafe and unsanitary living conditions including garbage and spoiled food on the floor, animal and human feces and a large amount of debris making areas of the house unpassable," he said.

Authorities said some of the injuries to the children appeared to have been caused by someone shooting a pellet gun.

The father, Jonathan Allen, 29, was arrested Friday after the children were interviewed. He has pleaded not guilty to seven counts of torture and nine counts of felony child abuse and was held on \$5.2 million bail.

The children did not require medical attention when they were removed. Stories about the alleged abuse came out gradually over the past six weeks and eight

of the children told professionals about incidents dating back several years, authorities said.

Sharon Henry, chief deputy district attorney for Solano County, said she was "horrified" by the children's statements and that torture was carried out in the house "for sadistic purposes." She declined to elaborate.

"It literally breaks your heart, and you're outraged by how a parent or anyone could commit those acts," Henry said.

Rogers, 30, was arrested on suspicion of neglect last month and released after posting \$10,000 bail.

She denied Monday her husband had abused the children.

"There's no broken bones, there is no major scars, nothing," Rogers told reporters in front of her house. "My kids got bumped and bruised and scratched because they're kids but that's it."

Rogers gave journalists a tour of the house, a four-bedroom home with scuffed walls and animal feces in the bathroom.

Rogers said the children slept in one bedroom because they were close and that cots were stored in a bedroom closet. The home's other rooms were used as a master bedroom, playroom and meditation room.

On the day the children were removed, the house was messy because she had just torn it apart looking for her missing son, who was angry because his parents had taken away his tablet computer, Rogers said.

Rogers said she feels the family is being judged for having so



RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

Ina Rogers talks with reporters Monday in Fairfield, Calif. Authorities removed Rogers' 10 children who were living at the home on March 31, and placed them in protective custody after one of them ran away. Rogers faces charges of child neglect.

many children and choosing to home-school them.

She and her husband both came from broken homes and they wanted a large family, Rogers said.

Child protection officials made one prior visit to the home several years ago, Rogers said. She did not say why.

Rogers said she works the graveyard shift as an EKG technician at a heart monitoring company and her husband is a tattoo artist.

Aleida Quartman, 23, who described herself as Rogers' co-

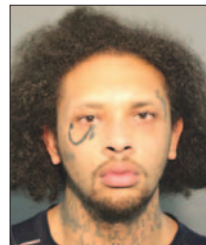
worker, said the mother spoiled her children.

The messy house was just life with children, cats, a dog and fish, Quartman said.

"She told me she's never lived alone and now that her kids are gone and her husband is gone, she's just a mess," Quartman said.

Peggy Allen, the mother of Jonathan Allen, said she had talked to Rogers about the importance of keeping a clean house.

She is estranged from her son and he has kept his family away from the children, she said.



SOLANO COUNTY (CALIF.) SHERIFF'S OFFICE/VIA AP

Rogers' husband, Jonathan Allen, has been charged with torture and child abuse after an investigation revealed a lengthy period of severe physical and emotional abuse.

"We're a Christian family and Jonathan has not been raised that way," she said.

Neighbor Larry Magnaye said he had no idea there were 10 children living in the house across the street.

The parents waved when leaving the driveway, but he never saw the children in the yard or heard them playing in the backyard pool.

"It's a pretty big house," Magnaye said. "But I don't know how you can keep it quiet when you have 10 kids. I can't keep it quiet with one, two you know?"

Report finds cases of STDs reach all-time high in Calif.

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The number of cases of sexually transmitted diseases in California reached a record high last year and officials are particularly concerned by a spike in stillbirths due to congenital syphilis, state health authorities said Monday.

More than 300,000 cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis were reported in 2017, a 45 percent increase from five years ago, according to data released by the California Department of Public Health.

Chlamydia and gonorrhea are most common among people under 30, the report said. Rates of chlamydia are highest among young women, while men account for the majority of syphilis and gonorrhea cases.

If left untreated, chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to infertility, ectopic pregnancy and chronic pelvic pain. Syphilis can result in blindness, hearing loss and neurologic problems.

The figure that caused the greatest alarm for researchers

and administrators was 30 stillbirths resulting from congenital syphilis statewide — the highest number reported since 1995, the CDPH said. Los Angeles County alone saw congenital syphilis cases jump from eight in 2013 to 47 last year.

"For California to have a steady increase in congenital syphilis is shameful," said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, a professor of medicine at University of California, Los Angeles. He pointed to nations such as Cuba, Thailand and Belarus that have nearly eliminated the life-threatening infection seen in infants.

"We've known how to control syphilis since [the early 1900s]. Seeing it come back like this is a sign of failure of the public health safety net," Klausner said.

Klausner placed much of the blame for the overall STD spike on what he called the "decimation" of public health infrastructure since the 2008 financial crisis. Funding slashed a decade ago hasn't been restored, leading to continued closing of clinics and collapse of education pro-

grams about risks and treatment options.

Dr. Heidi Bauer, chief of the state health department's STD Control Branch, agreed that budget issues are part of the problem. She estimated that about \$20 million in state and federal money is allocated yearly to fighting STDs — a small number in a state with nearly 40 million residents.

Bauer also suggested the rise in STDs may be a symptom of more general problems in areas such as the economically hard-hit San Joaquin Valley where people are struggling with poverty, substance abuse, mental health issues and homelessness.

She also partially blamed the funneling of patients away from public health services toward primary care physicians under the Affordable Care Act.

"For sexual health, primary care wasn't the most effective method," Bauer said. Someone who depended on public clinics for STD screening and treatment may not want to discuss it with their doctor, or may not have a doctor at all, she said.

Appeals court to weigh Trump's DACA decision

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The Trump administration will try to convince a U.S. appeals court Tuesday that it was justified in ending an Obama-era immigration policy that shielded hundreds of thousands of young immigrants from deportation.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will be the first federal appeals court to hear arguments about President Donald Trump's decision to phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

DACA has protected some 700,000 people who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families that overstayed visas.

A federal judge in San Francisco in January blocked the Trump administration's decision to end DACA, reinstating the program in a decision that applied nationwide. U.S. District Judge William Alsup rejected the argument that President Barack Obama exceeded his power in implementing DACA and said the Trump administration failed to consider the disruption that ending the program would cause.

"This has become an important

program for DACA recipients and their families, the employers who hire them, for our tax treasuries, and for our economy," the judge said.

The Trump administration said it was forced to act because Texas and other states threatened to sue, raising the prospect of a chaotic end to the program. It wants the 9th Circuit to throw out Alsup's ruling along with the five lawsuits he considered, including one by the state of California and another by the University of California's governing body.

Federal judges in New York and Washington, D.C., also have ruled against the Trump administration on DACA. The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is expected to hear arguments this summer on an appeal of the New York judge's ruling.

The DACA decision appears likely to end up before the U.S. Supreme Court eventually.

The administration has been critical of the 9th Circuit and took the unusual step of trying to side-step the appeals court and have the California DACA cases heard directly by the Supreme Court. The high court in February declined to do so.

WORLD

Israel faces backlash after dozens killed in Gaza

By FARES AKRAM
AND KARIN LAUB
Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israel faced a growing backlash Tuesday and new charges of using excessive force, a day after Israeli troops firing from across a border fence killed 59 Palestinians and wounded more than 2,700 at a mass protest in Gaza.

Turkey expelled Israel's ambassador, while Ireland and Belgium summoned Israeli envoys. Leading European countries and the U.N. human rights office called for an investigation of the bloodshed.

Israel says it has the right to defend its border against a possible mass breach and accuses Gaza's Hamas rulers of trying to carry out attacks under the cover of the protests. A military spokesman said Tuesday that 14 of those killed a day earlier were involved in attacks.

Monday marked the deadliest day in Gaza since a 2014 cross-border war with Israel, and was part of a high-stakes campaign by the Islamic militant Hamas to break a decadelong border blockade.

In jarring contrast to the Gaza bloodshed, the U.S. held a festive inauguration ceremony for a new U.S. Embassy in contested Jerusalem at the same time Monday, just several dozen miles away. The juxtaposition of violence on the Gaza border and festivities attended by a Trump administration delegation — captured on split screens in TV broadcasts around the world — briefly drew attention to the plight of Gaza and its 2 million people.

The relocation of the embassy



MAJDI MOHAMMED/AP

A protester holds a Palestinian flag Tuesday during clashes with Israeli forces after a rally to mark the 70th anniversary of what Palestinians call their "nakba," or catastrophe — the uprooting of hundreds of thousands in the Mideast war over Israel's 1948 creation.

from Tel Aviv, condemned by Palestinians as blatantly pro-Israel, further dimmed prospects of what President Donald Trump had once touted as plans to negotiate the "deal of the century." The Palestinians seek Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem as a capital.

The high casualty toll revived international criticism of Israel's open-fire policies. Rights groups have said the use of potentially lethal force against protesters who pose no immediate threat to soldiers' lives is unlawful. The military has said presumably less lethal rubber-coated steel pellets are not effective in keeping demonstrators from the fence.

Germany, Belgium and Ireland called for an investigation of the violence.

The U.N. Security Council planned to meet Tuesday to dis-

cuss the violence, though it was not clear what might come out of the session.

On Tuesday, there were no signs that Hamas had made a breakthrough in shaking off the blockade imposed by Israel and Egypt. Egypt extended the opening of its border crossing with Gaza, initially set to continue for four days, by two more days, until Thursday. Typically, the Rafah crossing is closed for most of the year.

Protest organizers said Tuesday was set aside for funerals, in an apparent attempt to lower expectations of another mass protest later in the day. Thousands joined funeral processions Tuesday, though many of those killed Monday had been buried the same day, in line with Muslim tradition.

Marines boost security at embassies amid protests

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon sent Marines to bolster security at American compounds overseas as the United States formally moved its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, military officials said Monday.

Marines were deployed to "several U.S. embassies" on temporary assignments to augment security during a "heightened threat environment," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Rebecca Rebarich, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

The controversial move Monday of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem sparked bloody clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli forces along Gaza's border. Israelis and Palestinians both claim Jerusalem as their capital. The Associated Press reported more than 50 Palestinians were fatally shot by Israeli soldiers and some 2,400 others were wounded in the exchanges, which included firebombs lobbed at Israeli troops by protesters.

Rebarich said the Pentagon could not say how many Marines were deployed or to which embassies, citing security concerns. The Marines were deployed from the Marine Security Guard Augmen-

tation Unit from Quantico, Va., a unit designed specifically to respond to such security threats worldwide at the State Department's request, a Marine official said.

NBC News reported the additional Marines were sent to embassies in Israel, Jordan and Turkey, citing five unnamed defense officials. They reported only modest increases of more than 10 but less than several dozen Marines at each location, according to three of the unnamed officials.

The Department of Defense "takes necessary steps to mitigate threats to U.S. personnel, embassies and consulates around the world," Rebarich said. "... Augmentation is conducted regularly when a diplomatic post faces a heightened threat environment."

In the event a U.S. embassy or consulate were to come under the threat of attack, Marine Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Teams, known as FAST companies, would be deployed to respond, according to the Marine Corps. The teams are designed to prevent or react to an overrun of U.S. government assets and protect employees and property. FAST units typically deploy as platoons of about 50 Marines.

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Cleric's Iraqi election win could impact US troops' presence

By TAMER EL-GHOBASHY
AND MUSTAFA SALIM
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — The surprisingly strong showing of a ticket backed by maverick cleric Muqtada al-Sadr in Iraqi elections over the weekend will force U.S. officials to recalculate how best to pursue American interests in the region at an especially sensitive moment.

Sadr is a ferocious critic of American policies in the Middle East, and his unexpected electoral haul immediately calls into question the continuing presence of U.S. troops in Iraq. But his spokesman said Sadr supports honoring commitments between Iraq and the United States concerning the training of Iraq's security

forces and weapons purchases as long as they serve Iraq's interests and there "is no interference on the sovereignty of Iraq."

Sadr's ticket won the most seats in Iraq's parliamentary election, according to results from all 18 provinces released Monday, placing him in the best position to select the country's next prime minister and set the

course for how the nation emerges from a costly war against Islamic State.

His ascendancy comes at the expense of incumbent Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, the preferred candidate of the United States, who came in third.

The Shiite cleric first gained international notice as a young militia leader who fought U.S. troops after the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

But Sadr has grown increasingly pragmatic over the years and formed a cross-sectarian electoral alliance emphasizing Iraqi nationalism over loyalty to Iranian clerics and American military and political backing. He has also broken ranks with Iraq's Shiite establishment by denouncing Iran's involvement in Syria's civil war and its bid for expanded influence in Iraq.

"He's the only politician with a clear vision for Iraq," said a Western diplomat who spoke on the condition of anonymity to give a frank assessment of Sadr. "Iraq first, eradicate corruption and a technocratic government."

Sadr is distrusted by both the United States and Iran for his active opposition to both countries. He has balked, for instance, at Iran's efforts to extend its influence through military assistance and political backing of hard-line Shiite politicians. Like the United States, Iran will now also have to recalibrate how to advance its interests

in Iraq, where Sadr's independence has made him attractive to some of Iran's rivals in the Arab world.

Tensions in the region have mounted — and in particular between the United States and Iran — partly because of President Donald Trump's decision last week to withdraw the United States from the nuclear deal with Tehran.

Sadr surprised allies and opponents alike with his strong showing across the majority of Iraqi provinces, where voters responded to his message of fighting corruption and reforming Iraq's patronage-heavy political system.

Analysts say he also benefited from his ability to command a fiercely loyal base in an election that saw historically low turnout.

Sadr's electoral list, however, fell far short of a majority. That would offer a lifeline to Abadi, if he can work out an agreement with Sadr and other reform-minded parties that won handfulls of seats. How the vote tally translates into parliamentary seats will be announced in this week, Iraq's election commission said.

Abadi's supporters and opponents had considered his ticket the most likely to prevail in the election and secure him a second term as prime minister.

Though Abadi is a Shiite, he performed poorly in Iraq's Shiite heartland but may history by becoming the only incumbent to

ever win Sunni-majority Mosul. As a result, he can argue that he is the only credible politician representing a "national coalition" — but he would do so from a much weaker position, said Kirk Sowell, the publisher of Inside Iraqi Politics, an influential newsletter.

"Abadi will be entirely dependent on Sadr for his reelection now," Sowell said.

Abadi has clearly supported the presence of U.S. troops. The Pentagon has seen a continuing role for U.S. forces in preventing a resurgence of Islamic State, and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis told Congress last month that he would support a residual force if the Iraqi government agreed to the presence. At the same hearing, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the U.S. military learned its lesson by departing Iraq too hastily in late 2011 and allowing ISIS to grow.

The Pentagon and U.S. Central Command, which oversees the Middle East, declined to say Monday how the outcome of the Iraqi election could impact the presence of American troops. "We continue to operate to defeat ISIS for the long-term and continue to support the Iraqi national security forces and help them to become a self-sufficient, sustainable entity," said Eric Pahre, a spokesman for the Defense Department.



Sadr

WORLD

Experts say pilot purposely crashed Malaysia flight

By CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
The Washington Post

All but one of the 239 people on the doomed Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 had probably been unconscious — incapacitated by the sudden depressurization of the Boeing 777 — and had no way of knowing that they were on an hours-long, meandering path to their deaths.

Along that path, a panel of aviation experts said Sunday, was a brief but telling detour near Penang, Malaysia, the hometown of Capt. Zaharie Ahmad Shah.

On two occasions, whoever was in control of the plane — and was probably the only one awake — tipped the craft to the left.

The experts believe Zaharie, the plane's pilot, was taking a final look.

That's the chilling theory that the team of analysts assembled by Australia's "60 Minutes" have posted about the final hours of MH370.

They suspect that the plane's 2014 disappearance and apparent crash was a suicide by Zaharie, 53, and a premeditated act of mass murder.

But first, the experts said, they believe Zaharie depressurized the plane, knocking out anyone aboard who wasn't wearing an oxygen mask. That would explain the silence from the plane as it veered wildly off course: no mayday from the craft's radio, no final goodbye texts, no attempted emergency calls that failed to connect.

That would also explain how whoever was in control had time to maneuver the plane to its final location.

The wreckage has not been found, though hundreds of millions of dollars have gone into the four-year search. The secret of what happened in the final moments of the ill-fated flight — and the motive behind it all — probably died with its passengers and pilot.

But the "60 Minutes" team — which included aviation specialists, the former Australian Transport Safety Bureau chief in charge of investigating MH370's crash and an oceanographer — put forth what they believe is the most likely theory.

"The pilot that gets discussed the most is that at the point where the plot turned the transponder off, that he depressurized the airplane, that he would disable the passengers," said Larry Vance, a veteran aircraft investigator from Canada. "He was killing himself. Unfortunately, he was killing everyone else onboard. And he did it deliberately."

Zaharie's suspected suicide

'He was killing himself. Unfortunately, he was killing everyone else onboard. And he did it deliberately.'

Larry Vance
aircraft investigator

might explain an oddity about the plane's final flight path: that unexpected turn to the left.

"Captain Zaharie dipped his wing to see Penang, his home town," Simon Hardy, a Boeing 777 senior pilot and instructor, said on "60 Minutes."

"If you look very carefully, you can see it's actually a turn to the left, and then start a long turn to the right. And then (he does) another left turn. So I spent a long time thinking about what this could be, what technical reason is there for this and, after two months, three months thinking about this, I finally got the answer: Someone was looking out the window."

"It might be a long emotional goodbye," Hardy added. "Or a short emotional goodbye to his home town."

Flight 370 disappeared March 8, 2014, shortly after leaving Kuala Lumpur, with 239 people aboard who believed they were bound for Beijing.

The craft is thought to have crashed in the far southern Indian Ocean.

The "60 Minutes" experts tried to answer one of the biggest questions surrounding the flight: How could a modern aircraft tracked by radar and satellites simply disappear?

Because, they say, Zaharie wanted it to. And the veteran pilot, who had nearly 20,000 hours of flight experience and had built a flight simulator in his home, knew exactly how to do it.

For example, at one point, he flew near the border of Malaysia and Thailand, crisscrossing into the airspace of both, Hardy said. But neither country was likely to see the plane as a threat because it was on the edge of their airspace.

"Both of the controllers aren't bothered about this mysterious aircraft because, oh, it's gone, it's not in our space anymore," Hardy said. "If you were commissioning me to do this operation and try to make a 777 disappear, I would do the same thing. As far as I'm concerned, it's very accurate flying, and it did the job."



HASAN JAMALI/AP

A Bahraini woman walks past images of political prisoners plastered on a wall in Sanabis, Bahrain, in 2015. Prosecutors in Bahrain said Tuesday that a court has revoked the citizenship of 115 people in a mass terrorism trial.

Bahrain revokes citizenship of 115 people in mass terrorism trial

By JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A Bahrain court on Tuesday revoked the citizenship of 115 people at a mass terrorism trial, sentencing dozens to prison amid a years-long crackdown on all dissent in the island kingdom.

Bahrain's Public Prosecution said the case involved a little-known militant group it identified as the "Zulfikar Brigades," whose mass arrests authorities previously announced in 2016.

Prosecutors said those accused built and detonated bombs, received weapons training and plotted to kill police officers in Bahrain, an island off the coast of Saudi Arabia in the Persian Gulf.

A statement from prosecutors said 53 defendants received life sentences, while dozens of others faced prison time. It said 23 defendants were acquitted.

Bahraini officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment for more information.

Bahrain, a nation only some 290 square miles in size, is home to some 1.4 million people. About half

are Bahraini citizens, the majority of them Shiite. The island is also home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet and a new British naval base.

The island has been ruled since 1783 by the Sunni Al Khalifa family. King Hamad, who took the throne in 1999, initially took steps to move the country from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional one. The first parliamentary elections since 1973 were held in 2002.

However, the island's Shiite majority accused the government of treating them like second-class citizens. They joined pro-democracy activists in demanding more political freedoms in 2011, as Arab Spring protests swept the wider Middle East. Saudi and Emirati troops ultimately helped violently put down the demonstrations.

Amid this recent crackdown, local Shiite militant groups have carried out several attacks on security forces. Independent news gathering in Bahrain also has grown more difficult, with the government refusing to accredit two Associated Press reporters and others while shutting down a prominent local independent newspaper.

14th human foot washes ashore in Canada

By AMY B WANG
The Washington Post

Like nearly all of the 13 human feet that had mysteriously washed up on Canadian shores before it, the 14th foot appeared, unexpectedly, on the banks of the Salish Sea in British Columbia. This time, a man walking the beach on Gabriola Island discovered the appendage May 6, trapped in a mass of logs, according to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The law-enforcement agency described the foot as "disarticulated" — that is to say, disconnected from the human body to which it had belonged. It did not specify if it was a left foot or a right foot. Curiously, Foot No. 14 was clad in a hiking boot; all but one of the others had been wearing athletic sneakers.

So continues the mystery of the human feet floating ashore in the Pacific Northwest, a phenomenon

that has captivated residents, scientists and area law enforcement since 2007. In August of that year, not one but two disembodied human feet, both right ones, were found on islands in the Salish Sea, a network of coastal waterways between Vancouver Island and Canada's westernmost province.

Over the next year, four more feet would appear in the region's inlets and beaches.

At the time, officials emphasized none of the human remains had shown signs of trauma.

With time and DNA testing, officials were able to positively match the wayward feet with people who had been reported missing. In the process, less sensational but no less tragic stories emerged.

One of the first feet discovered was eventually linked to a missing Vancouver man who had suffered from depression and emotional distress. The Seattle Times reported in 2008.

On a few occasions, corresponding left and right feet have appeared within a few months of each other. Two of the feet that washed ashore in 2008 — one in February and the other in mid-June — were found on separate islands in British Columbia, clad in matching size 11 Nike running shoes. In 2011, the British Columbia Coroners Service used DNA analysis to identify those two feet as having belonged to a 21-year-old Surrey resident reported missing in 2004.

"Autopsies indicated the feet had not been mechanically removed but rather separated through the natural processes that occur in a marine environment," the coroner's office said then.

In one remarkable case, a right foot found in Port Moody in 2011 was linked to a man who was reported missing in 1985, according to the coroner's office.

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OPINION

Putin isn't as all-powerful as he looks

By JACKSON DIEHL

The Washington Post

Vladimir Putin's grim, businesslike inauguration to a fourth term as Russian president last week was accompanied by equally grim commentaries about his grip on the country. He may have stolen the election, it was said, but the vast majority of Russians support him and his regime. He may have eliminated all serious opposition, through prohibitions, imprisonment and the occasional murder, but his country is unsuited for democracy anyway.

There's a times-and-tides logic to such stuff: If 80 percent of voters support you, why not let your main opponent compete, and prove it? If Russians are really content with the political serfdom, why did tens of thousands of them take to the streets of more than 60 cities two days before the inauguration, carrying signs saying things such as "Putin is not for Tsar?"

How refreshing, then, to meet the group of Russians who appeared in Washington last week, shortly after Putin's swearing-in: Opposition activists who are not just protesting but also organizing grass-roots movements in and around Moscow — and who delivered a snarl that startling rebuff to the Kremlin a few months ago. Theirs is a more realistic, grounded view of Putin's Russia, which is a place where discontent is growing, the desire for civil rights is tangible and the prospect of democratic change is, in the long term, real. "Yes, we believe in [Putin's] polls, but things can change very fast if there is a real opposition," said Natalia Shavshukova, a former municipal council member who now trains local politicians. Her proof? In

the municipal elections in the Moscow region in September, independent candidates won 260 of about 300 seats, compared with 30 in the previous election. One of the districts lost by the government was the Moscow area including the Kremlin.

Wait, you say: A real democratic election? In Putin's Russia? It turns out they can still happen on the local level, largely because the regime lacks the resources to suppress independent candidates or steal votes in every municipal council. In that space, grass-roots movements have sprung up: People angry about toxic garbage dumps, a destructive urban renewal plan or local corruption are banding together, finding candidates and getting them elected, using the mostly empty shells of legally tolerated political parties as their vehicles.

"We have already proved that opposition candidates are able to win at the local level. That's because the authorities didn't think we were dangerous," said Vladislav Nagayev, a 30-year-old lawyer who was elected to the Khimki district council outside Moscow. Added Julia Galiamina, of the Timiryazevsky district council: "Our behavior changed the system. When we work on the ground and lead a good team, we win."

If opposition leaders do start to look dangerous, of course, bad things happen to them. Yevgeny Urshakov, a charismatic opposition leader who in 2012 won election as mayor of Yaroslavl, a city of 600,000, is now serving a 12-year prison sentence on trumped-up charges. Boris Nemtsov, a national opposition leader, was murdered on a bridge outside the Kremlin in 2015. Alexei Navalny, who succeeded him as Putin's chief nemesis, has been banned from elections and subjected to constant harassment

since receiving 27 percent of the vote in a 2013 contest for mayor of Moscow. Nemtsov's death, and other recent movements show, though, is that if Putin is seeking to create a model of 21st-century authoritarianism in Russia, he's not succeeding. His regime consists of a centralized, mafia-like clique that controls the military, security services, state television and a number of big companies, but — unlike in the Soviet era — not everything. Whenever it retreats — and under mounting economic pressure, the regime is retreating — an independent civil society springs up. That's especially true among younger people, who make up a large share of the opposition candidates in local elections.

Though they don't get much attention, popular protests are slowly growing around Russia. They are triggered by the abuses and disasters of a failing government — such as the shopping-mall fire that killed 64 people in Siberia in March, or the landfill emitting toxic fumes in the Moscow suburb of Volokolamsk last month.

Shavshukova said that for many of those turning out for demonstrations, "it's not a political project. But was the Boston Tea Party a political project? Nobody knows when it starts to turn into politics."

It may take a long time. But what seems clear in talking to these Russian organizers is that Putin, the putative all-powerful ruler, will not control the timing. "For many people, Putin is simply a symbol of great Russia," said Galiamina. "Our goal is to show people the connection between local problems, their lives and federal policies. But it's a very long-term goal. For now, we have to show them that politics exists."

Jackson Diehl is deputy editorial page editor for The Washington Post.

Self-determination retains universal appeal

By MAX BOOT

The Washington Post

"The era of liberal democracy is over," so said Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán last week as he began his fourth overall term in office. It's a persuasive message coming from a self-proclaimed champion of "illiberal democracy" who has consolidated near-dictatorial power by fomenting anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic prejudice, rewriting electoral laws and installing his cronies to run the media, law enforcement, the judiciary, cultural institutions, churches, schools and universities.

What Orbán is doing in Hungary is reflective of a global trend. According to Freedom House, 2017 represented the 12th consecutive year of decline in global freedom." This is the era of strongmen, such as Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Vladimir Putin, Nicolas Maduro and Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who have brutally snuffed out the remnants of democracy in their countries. In China, collective rule has given way to the personal rule of personality. The Arab Spring led to greater despotism and chaos, only in Tunisia did a democracy emerge.

The "end of history" consensus of the 1990s, which held that liberal democracy was fated to triumph, has given way to despair that, as former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright argues in a new book, "the end of the world as we know it was a mistake to assume that the spread of freedom was inevitable, it's also wrong to assume that the 'spirit of '76' is as passé as the tricorn hats and knee breeches worn by the Founding Fathers. No one in the world lived in a democracy in the 18th century if defined to mean universal rights; today, 39 percent of the world's population lives in

free countries and 24 percent in partially free countries. And wherever you look, you see the struggle for liberty.

On Saturday, more than 10 million Iraqis voted in elections that were competitive and free of violence. Turnout was low, but it was an indication that Iraqis demand democracy.

— which appeared to be stillborn in the dark days of the American war, 2003-2007, and again during the Islamic State war, 2014-2017 — remains alive. The top vote-getter unexpectedly appeared to be an alliance between secularists and followers of Muslim cleric, a Shia cleric, who has positioned himself as a foe of corruption and Iranian influence.

In Malaysia, an election last week dealt the first-ever defeat to the United Malays National Organization, the political party that has ruled since independence in 1957. In 12th-century Baghdad, a Shia cleric had accused of massive speculation, will be replaced by his mentor, 92-year-old former Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamad. He promised to release opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim from prison and even to turn over the country's leadership to him. Given that Mahatir, once imprisoned Anwar Ibrahim, is a welcome sign.

Armenia has seen another advance for democracy. Peaceful demonstrations in Yerevan toppled Serzh Sargsyan, who had ruled for the past 10 years as president and tried a Putinesque move to stay in power as prime minister. He has been replaced by Nikol Pashinyan, a young leader, er Nikol Pashinyan, who became distinctive for protesting in a camouflage T-shirt. A peaceful, democratic revolution in a former Soviet republic is no small achievement, given how hard Putin works to support dictatorships. The price of regime change is the death of the revolutionaries, unlike their predecessors in Ukraine and

Georgia, have vowed not to reverse a pro-Moscow foreign policy, but this is still progress for a country struggling with the usual post-Soviet corruption and stagnation.

Protesters in Nicaragua haven't been as successful, but they keep coming out in force against the Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega even though more than 40 people have already been killed in clashes with security forces. Having scrapped term limits, President Ortega has been in power since 2007, ruling with his wife and vice president, Rosario Murillo. They have been accused of repression, corruption and squelching civil society. But now the power couple are forced to compromise with demonstrators by rescinding unpopular cuts to social services.

Finally, in Poland, more than 50,000 protesters took to the streets of Warsaw on Saturday to protest the growing corrosion of democracy at the hands of the populist Law and Justice Party.

I don't mean to suggest that democracy is destined to prevail in Iraq, Malaysia, Nicaragua or Poland. But the fact that so many people in those countries, separated by vast differences in history, religion, ethnicity and culture, are struggling for similar rights is a sign that self-determination retains universal appeal.

Unfashionable as it may be to say so, President George W. Bush was right when he told the U.N. General Assembly in 2004:

"The desire for freedom resides in every human heart, and culture, and desire cannot be contained forever by prison walls or martial laws or secret police. Over time and across the Earth, freedom will find a way." It's just going to take longer — maybe a lot longer — than Bush imagined.

Max Boot, a Washington Post columnist, is the Jean B. Kirkpatrick senior fellow for national security studies at the Council on Foreign Relations.

OPINION

Sports betting is finally leaving the desert

By MARCUS HAYES

The Philadelphia Inquirer

A slim, elegant older gentleman took a seat on his patio overlooking Lake Mead on Monday morning, turned on his phone and began to parse his wagers for the day. Would he bet on the Rockets, who were favored by one point over the Warriors? Would he take his hometown Vegas Golden Knights, underdogs in Winnipeg?

This is how Vegas Vic starts almost every day.

Thanks to a common-sense ruling, soon you can too. Finally.

"It's idiotic you had to go to 'Tony Two-Toes,' and 'Joey Four-Fingers' and all the guys in those east coast cities, the gambling capitals of the world where the mob is running things," Vic said.

Within months, if not weeks, if you live in a state that wants to legalize sports gambling you won't have to phone your bookmaker. In most states you'll just open an app on your phone.

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday declared unconstitutional the law that prohibited most states from legalizing sports gambling, bringing into light a black market estimated to handle at least \$150 billion in bets annually. The law was called the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act. (PAPA). The case, *Murphy v. NCAA*, was sponsored by former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, a basketball star at Princeton and with the New York Knicks. The bill passed in 1992 with the blessing of the

professional leagues eager to safeguard against game-fixing. Which was like killing a fly with a bazooka.

On Monday, the 6-3 decision ended decades of hypocrisy by leagues who solicited deals with casino owners while purporting to shun the gambling industry.

It was New Jersey — yes, Bradley's state — that petitioned the court to hear the case, and it likely will be the first to benefit. Some experts believe that, within two weeks, the London-based William Hill sports book could add sports betting to its racetrack at Monmouth Park, N.J. Pennsylvania also has in place a law that could quickly add sports gambling in its casinos and "racinos," as experts West Virginia. Industry does believe NFL fans in several states will be able to bet on games when the season begins in September.

"If we do this the right way, the only losers will be the illegal bookies that have been operating a massive black market," said Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill's operations in the U.S.

Ever since the court agreed to hear the case, DraftKings, the Boston-based daily fantasy sports company, has been seeking a casino partner in New Jersey and not working on a digital platform to launch its sports betting operation.

"This is really our bread and butter," said DraftKings CEO Jason Robins, whose company claims as many as 10 million users. "A lot of our customers report they already bet on sports.



THE SUPREME COURT

We'll be able to deliver that better than anyone else out there."

Massachusetts also has legislation in place to make sports betting happen fast, and DraftKings has expanded its offices there. As many as 20 other states are considering legislation that will legalize sports betting.

Everybody wants a piece of this action, even the leagues. Each is pledging Monday to police the "integrity" of their sports, but betting has been legal in the U.K. for years and that society has not crumbled.

Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban told CNBC that the value of every major sports franchise doubled Monday.

NBA commissioner Adam Silver has supported legalized betting for almost four years. This

winter, in anticipation of a favorable court ruling, he began a campaign to extract a 1 percent "integrity fee" from gross revenues realized from betting on NBA games. Major League Baseball followed suit. That number would likely shrink to around 0.25 percent, since bookmakers generally only make about 5 percent profit.

The next hurdle is determining how the pie gets sliced. Pennsylvania's existing legislation, signed into law in October, carves out a 36 percent tax rate for state and local coffers, which is prohibitively high, as well as a \$10 million licensing fee. West Virginia, for comparison, will tax at 10 percent with a \$100,000 licensing fee. Mississippi hasn't set a number yet, and New Jersey's

current bill would tax between 8 and 12.5 percent. Nevada taxes at around 7 percent.

Once the kinks are worked out, Vic and Robins agreed, back-alley bookies will largely wither and die. Some might hold on by lowering the "vig," or service charge, from the standard 10 percent to as little as 5 percent, and a few bettors might want to shun the tax man.

"Maybe some (gamblers) will want to continue because they'll be able to avoid taxes, but I think most people don't think that way," Robins said. "Most people, if there's a legal means to do an activity they enjoy, they're more than happy to shift to that."

The decision also will turn tech-heads ever more toward their devices. In states where sports betting is legalized online as well as in casinos, there will be in-game betting from your couch, or even from your seat at the arena. There already is, said Vic, at Knights hockey games, and there will be more when the NFL's Raiders arrive in two years. Spurred by an ongoing surge in mobile sports betting, which was legalized in the state in 2011, Nevada sports books collected a record \$248.7 million from \$4.8 billion bets placed in 2017.

One thing's for sure: Fewer gamblers will be calling Tony Two-Toes or Joey Four-Fingers.

"I don't think the Gambinos and the Five Families in New York are too happy right now," said Vic. "But I guess they have other stuff to keep them busy."

I'd wager this ruling is a victory for states' rights

By NOAH FELDMAN

Bloomberg Opinion

In an important states'-rights decision announced Monday, the U.S. Supreme Court has allowed New Jersey to permit sports gambling, both by private casinos and through state lotteries. The case, *Murphy v. NCAA*, has important constitutional consequences — and could have a major economic impact as well.

The law at issue is the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, which Congress enacted in 1992. It prohibited states from either operating sports gambling or authorizing private actors like casinos to run sports gambling. Importantly, the law didn't make states gambling a federal crime. Instead, to say the least, it federal law enforcement, it relied on states' existing prohibitions plus the ban on authorization.

PASPA made an exception for Nevada, which allowed sports gambling in casinos, and grandfathered in three states that allowed sports lotteries or pools. The law also gave New Jersey a year to legalize sports gambling in Atlantic City. At the time, New Jersey decided against it, and when the year passed, the state fell under the general ban.

That changed in 2011, when the decline of Atlantic City as a gambling center led to state efforts to revive it. New Jersey voters adopted a state constitutional amendment allowing the legislature to authorize sports gambling, and in 2012, the state legislature did so. Professional sports leagues and the National Collegiate Athletic Association challenged the law as a violation of PASPA. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit struck down the state law as an "authorization" of sports gambling in violation of the federal ban, and the Supreme Court declined to review the case.

Undeterred, New Jersey passed a new law this time not authorizing gambling but just repealing the state law provisions that would have prohibited it. The 3rd Circuit said repealing the laws against gambling amounted to authorizing gambling — and struck down the law again.

In the opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito — the New Jersey justice — the Supreme Court upheld the state's gambling law and in effect struck down PASPA as a violation of the Constitution.

The essence of the court's holding was that Congress lacks the authority under the Constitution to tell states what laws they may

or may not adopt. The basis for this is what's called "anti-commandeering doctrine."

Alito acknowledged that the doctrine "may sound arcane," which is fair enough. He summarized the doctrine as an expression of what he called a "fundamental structural decision" in the Constitution: "to withhold from Congress the power to issue orders directly to the states."

Thus simplified, the doctrine covers PASPA nicely. Congress is telling the states what they can or cannot do when it comes to passing their own laws. That, according to Alito, violates states' rights.

In fact, the anti-commandeering doctrine was until now a bit more subtle. The classic decisions expressing it say that Congress may not direct states to do things on behalf of the federal government. The "commandeering" part of the doctrine was the idea that Congress can't "command" state officials to administer and enforce federal laws.

Alito's opinion goes substantially further in the direction of protecting states. For the first time, it expressly takes the position that Congress can't tell the states what not to do. To reach this conclusion, Alito relied on the no-

tion that there was no functional difference between requiring the state to enact legislation and banning the state from enacting legislation.

What was tricky about this extension of states' rights is that Congress is permitted to preempt state laws by passing its own laws. Alito acknowledged this authority, but said that Congress' power to preempt state law only relates to laws in which Congress regulates citizens directly, not to laws regulating the states.

The court also went further. Alito reasoned that if the states are free to legalize casino gambling, they must also be free to establish their own sports lotteries. His logic was that if Congress had known it lacked the authority to prohibit states from allowing casino gambling, Congress probably wouldn't have barred states from holding their own lotteries, a less harmful form of gambling.

states-related lotteries.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, in dissent, pointed out that the anti-commandeering doctrine is supposed to be based on the idea that Congress shouldn't create the appearance that state legislators have made policy choices that were in fact forced on them by Congress. That concern, she pointed out, wouldn't apply here, where it is obvious to all that PASPA is the source of the gambling ban. She added that Alito had gone too far in striking down the state lottery ban through what she considered a doubtful reconstruction of what Congress would have intended.

Overall, the decision may be read as a marker of the future direction of states' rights jurisprudence on what may well become a more conservative court. Of the liberals, only Justice Elena Kagan, the most tactically sophisticated of the group, joined Alito's opinion in full. She may be reading the writing on the wall — and hoping to build alliances for the future, when the court's conservatism comes to hold the balance of power on issues she cares more about than sports gambling.

Noah Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a professor of law at Harvard University and was a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter.

NATION

Homeowners ask: Am I covered for ruin via volcano?

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
Associated Press

HONOLULU — Patricia Deter moved from Oregon to Hawaii to be closer to her two daughters, but the Kilauea volcano burned down her home only a month after she bought it.

Now Deter and her family, along with others who have recently lost homes to the lava-spewing mountain, are on an urgent quest for answers about insurance, desperate to learn whether their coverage will offer any help after molten rock wiped out most of what they owned.

The eruption has destroyed about two dozen homes in the Leilani Estates subdivision on the Big Island. On Monday, another fissure spewing lava and toxic gas opened up, and a crack in the earth that emerged a day earlier was sending molten rock crawling toward the ocean, officials said. Nearly 20 fissures have opened since the Kilauea volcano started erupting 12 days ago, and officials warn it may soon blow its top with a massive steam eruption that would shroud boulders and ash miles into the sky.

Because the community sits in a zone deemed by the U.S. Geological Survey to have a high risk of lava, few insurance companies will issue policies there.

But homeowners are not without options. One possibility is the Hawaii Property Insurance Association, a nonprofit collection of insurance companies created by state lawmakers in 1991 to provide basic property insurance for people who are unable to buy coverage in the private market.

The horror of seeing homes turned to ash has motivated some people who went without insurance to scramble to purchase a policy. The association announced last week that it would issue policies to uninsured homeowners in the affected area, but they will have to wait six months for them.

Some homeowners believe fire coverage will suffice for homes

Hawaii tourism hurt by eruption effects

PAHOA, Hawaii — People nixing vacations to Hawaii's Big Island has cost the tourism industry millions of dollars as the top attraction, Kilauea volcano, keeps spewing lava.

Cancellations from May through July have hit at least \$5 million, said Ross Birch, executive director of the island's tourism board.

The booking pace for hotels and other activities, such as tours for lava viewing, zip lines and glass bottom boats have fallen 50 percent. A handful of cruise ships have also decided not to come into port even in Kona on the west side of the island, about 80 miles away from the volcano.

This is the "first leak we're seeing out of the bucket," Birch said.

Most of the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park remains closed to visitors.

From the Associated Press

burned by fire from the lava. And a list of frequently asked questions from the Hawaii Insurance Division supports that idea, saying that lava damage may be covered "as a fire peril."

However, there are exceptions. Judy Moa, an insurance broker who specializes in catastrophic coverage for Hawaii, said if a policy specifically excludes lava damage, then a policy's fire coverage would not apply.

"The cause of damage is lava at the end of the day," she said. "If lava came down the hill, and they have lava exclusion and trees catch fire, which burn the house, that's not covered."

Some homeowners forgo policies that include lava coverage because they can cost more than



CALIE JONES/AP

Volcanic gases and ash rise from recent lava fissures near Pahoa, Hawaii, on Monday. The field of hardened lava rocks in the foreground is from previous eruptions.

\$3,000 per year, said Moa, who has fielded many calls from anxious homeowners.

The same insurance questions haunt people whose homes are standing but could still be torched by future lava flows.

Todd Corrigan and his wife left their Leilani Estates home on May 4 after a magnitude-6.9 earthquake knocked belongings off their shelves. That job convinced them it was time to evacuate.

Corrigan said the most stressful part of the experience might be the uncertainty about what insurance will cover. His policy will pay for damage from a fire but not from lava. His insurer also cautioned him that it will not cover damage if he has not been at home for 30 days. That requirement could be a problem if he is gone for a long time.

"You have to worry about that

stress when you're trying to deal with everything else," Corrigan said.

Deter's daughters live in the same area as their 88-year-old mother. They know the eruption risks, so they made sure their mother's home was covered by a policy that included lava.

The family's Hawaii-based insurance agent assured daughter Vickie Pruitt that her mother's house was fully covered for lava. But a phone call from an adjuster on the U.S. mainland told them it looked like the damage was from an earthquake — not the lava — and that the home would not be covered.

"I'm like, 'What?'" Pruitt said. "I'm laughing hysterically. But it's not funny. It's tragic."

They were waiting for a follow-up call they hoped would provide more clarity.

NASA is sending robot helo to Mars

The Washington Post

In five decades of exploring Mars, NASA has sent orbiters, landers and rovers to explore Earth's neighbor. But the space agency's next mission will be the first to send a tiny robotic helicopter to another planet.

The Mars Helicopter, an autonomous spacecraft with a meter-long rotor and a body the size of a chihuahua, will fly in the underbelly of the Mars 2020 rover when it launches in two years, NASA announced Friday. The project will serve mainly as a test of the technology needed to fly a rotorcraft above a world 140 million miles away.

It took four years of testing and redesign to create a helicopter capable of operating on the Red Planet. Mars' atmosphere is so thin that hovering just 10 feet above the surface is the equivalent of soaring 100,000 feet above Earth.

The altitude record for helicopters on Earth is 40,000 feet; above that, the air isn't dense enough to hold copters aloft.

To make it fly at that low atmospheric density, we had to scrutinize everything, make it as light as possible while being as strong and as powerful as it can possibly be," Mimi Aung, the Mars Helicopter project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said in a news release.

The helicopter is equipped with solar cells to charge its lithium batteries and an internal heating mechanism to keep it warm through the Martian night, when temperatures can plummet to minus 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

It takes from about four minutes to almost as much as a half-hour for light to travel from Mars to Earth. That delay rules out the possibility of remotely operating the helicopter. Instead, the spacecraft must be able to receive commands from operators on Earth, then execute them on its own.

The Mars 2020 spacecraft is slated to touch down on the Martian surface in February 2021.

The car-size rover is equipped with a drill for collecting rock samples, instruments for conducting chemical analyses and seeking potentially habitable environments, an experiment to test the viability of producing oxygen from the planet's carbon dioxide-rich atmosphere and sensors.

The helicopter's first flight should be a short one: It will climb 10 feet and hover for 30 seconds before returning to the ground. If all goes according to plan, the craft will make four more flights with the course of a 30-day test campaign.

If the Mars Helicopter fails, the overall Mars 2020 mission will not be harmed. But a successful mission could pave the way for future rotorcraft to act as scouts and explore parts of Mars that rovers can't reach.

Facebook opens up about scrubbing offensive content

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook believes its policing system is better at catching graphic violence, gratuitous nudity and terrorist propaganda than its social network that it is at removing racist, sexist and other hateful remarks.

Tuesday's self-assessment — Facebook's first breakdown of how much material it removes — came three weeks after Facebook tried to give a clearer explanation of the kinds of posts that it won't

tolerate. The statistics cover a relatively short period, from October 2017 through March of this year, and don't disclose how long, on average, it takes Facebook to remove material violating its standards.

The increased transparency comes as the Menlo Park, Calif., company tries to make amends for a privacy scandal triggered by loose policies that allowed a data-mining company with ties to President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign to harvest per-

sonal information on as many as 87 million users. The content screening has nothing to do with privacy protection, though, and is aimed at maintaining a family-friendly atmosphere for users and advertisers.

Facebook removed 25 million pieces of content tagged as unacceptable hate speech during the first three months of this year. It says 62 percent of the offending content was flagged by Facebook users, while the company's human reviewers and computer

algorithms identified 38 percent. By contrast, Facebook's automated tools detected 86 percent to 99.5 percent of the violations in the categories of graphic violence, nudity, sexual activity and terrorist propaganda.

Facebook traced the disparity to the difficulty computer programs have understanding the nuances of human language, including the context and tone of the sentences being written.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Live tiger causes controversy at prom

FL MIAMI — A Florida high school decided to take the jungle theme for prom a bit too seriously for some students.

Students, parents and teachers from Christopher Columbus High School took to social media to say that a wild tiger at last Friday's prom was animal abuse. The Miami Herald reported that footage shows the tiger pacing inside a small enclosure as bright lights flashed around him.

Mari-Chris Castellanos, whose brother attends the all-boys private school, posted on Facebook and said the tiger "was used as an exotic amusement for the mindless teenagers who were present."

The dance also featured a lemur, two macaws, and an African fennec fox.

School administrators said in a statement that the venue approved it and that the animals were provided by facilities licensed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Lawyer who defends DUI cases faces own charge

NV LAS VEGAS — A Las Vegas attorney who often defends drunken driving suspects is facing a bench trial after being arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported John Leo Duffy, 56, was arrested March 3 and a bench trial for him is scheduled for July 9.

According to a criminal complaint, Duffy was booked into the Clark County Detention Center and later was charged with DUI and failure to maintain a lane.

Duffy was released on his own recognizance.

Because Duffy works closely with the vehicular crimes unit of the county district attorney's office, the Nevada Attorney General's Office has been asked to handle the prosecution of the case.

Callers to hotline can report offensive odors

SC WEST COLUMBIA — A South Carolina city trying to get a handle on smells related to a chicken plant owned by a North Carolina-based company has set up a hotline so people can file complaints about odors.

Callers to the code enforcement hotline in West Columbia are asked to include details such as the date and time they smelled the offensive odor; where they were; a description; how long they smelled it; and what they think is the source.

It was in October that the city council first discussed fines for odors, such as those emanating from the House of Raeford chicken plant. Earlier this year, the council amended an ordinance to address odors.

House of Raeford told WIS-TV that it's "continually working on ways to decrease any potential problems with odors."

THE CENSUS

1.2M

The approximate number of preventable-accident-free miles driven by a Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority bus driver. Godwin McNeal has been a driver for the RTA for 40 years, and officials said it's the longest such streak in the RTA's history. Asked what his secret might be, McNeal said he doesn't think about it. He then added that patience is needed. He hopes to retire in 2020 with his streak intact.



JACK HANRAHAN, ERIE TIMES-NEWS/AP

Nice kitty

Addison Kerner, 5, of Erie, Pa., gets an up-close look Friday at Eva, one of two new lionesses at the Erie Zoo during the zoo's unveiling of its new \$700,000 lion exhibit.

Wind blows bounce house, child onto road

CA ADELANTO — Authorities say a child suffered minor injuries as strong winds blew a bounce house from a California neighborhood onto a nearby highway.

The San Bernardino Sun reports a statement from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said winds Saturday afternoon blew the bounce house with a 9-year-old child inside of it from an Adelanto home onto Highway 395.

The sheriff's department said the bounce house rolled onto the highway and struck a vehicle, at which point the child fell out of it.

The child was taken to a hospital. The driver of the vehicle was not injured.

Warrant: Teen recorded sex act at school

GA KENNESAW — An Atlanta-area high school student is accused of recording a sex act between two students in a school bathroom. News outlets cite an arrest warrant that says the 17-year-old boy

reached over a closed bathroom stall at Harrison High School and recorded a 15-year-old girl with a 16-year-old boy. That video spread via social media, air drop and group chats.

An assistant principal notified police after discovering the video May 2. According to the warrant, the 17-year-old told administrators he took the video because he didn't understand how the school could let the act happen.

Cobb County police said the sex act was consensual and the students were recorded without their knowledge.

The teen is charged with eavesdropping-surveillance, a felony. Cobb County School District official John Stafford said the district had taken "appropriate action."

Litter leads wildlife agents to drug arrest

LA LAFAYETTE — Litter heaped on state land led wildlife agents to a drug arrest.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries said in a news release May 7 that the pile held information leading agents to Sean Covington, 43.

Enforcement spokesman Adam

Einck said that when agents stopped Covington's vehicle Friday, he had two kinds of prescription painkillers in one bottle. They also learned Lafayette Parish had warrants accusing him and a passenger of theft.

He said Covington was arrested on charges of drug possession and gross littering, as well as three warrants, two for suspected theft and one for traffic violations. He said Amanda Bergeron, 31, was arrested on one theft warrant.

Man guilty of venomous snake possession

MD CASCADE — Police say a Maryland man who used the name "Venom-Man20" on YouTube has pleaded guilty to two counts of illegal possession of venomous snakes after a search of his home turned up six rattlesnakes and other snakes.

Maryland Natural Resources Police said Brandon Joseph Boyles, 29, of Cascade, Md., was prohibited from owning dangerous animals in Maryland and was required to perform 20 hours of community service.

News outlets reported Boyles had worked at Catocin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo. He took five

venomous snakes, three alligators and a crocodile, which he owned, when he left in September 2017. However, Boyles didn't have a permit to keep them in his house.

Police said the crocodile, alligators and a rattlesnake were transferred to the Maryland Reptile Conservation in Dickerson.

Ex-Revolutionary War tavern up for sale

CT OLD LYME — A Connecticut building that was once home to a tavern during the Revolutionary War era is now listed up for sale.

Peck Tavern in Old Lyme dates back to early America, when it was home to a tavern from the later part of the 1700s through the early 1800s. The Day reports the building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The two-story building is currently a private residence owned by David and Susan Duncan and is listed for \$1,195,000.

David Duncan said the various owners of Peck Tavern have made their own additions to the original structure through the years, but have kept the soul of the home.

From wire reports

FACES



Actress Kidder of 'Superman' fame dies at 69

Associated Press

Margot Kidder, the Canadian actress who starred as a salty and cynical Lois Lane opposite Christopher Reeve in the Superman film franchise of the 1970s and 1980s, has died. She was 69.

Kidder's manager, Camille Fluxman Pines, said she died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday. No foul play is suspected.



Kidder

"Superman," directed by Richard Donner and released in 1978, was a superhero blockbuster two decades before comic book movies became the norm at the top of the box office. Makers of today's Marvel and D.C. films cite "Superman" as an essential inspiration.

Kidder, as ace reporter Lane, was a salty, sexually savvy adult who played off of the boyish, farm-raised charm of Reeve's Clark Kent, though her dogged journalism constantly got her into dangerous scrapes that required old-fashioned rescues.

Kidder had many of the movies' most memorable lines, including "You've got me!! Who's got you?!" when she first encountered the costumed hero as she and a helicopter plunged from the top of a Metropolis building.

Kidder and Reeve were relative unknowns when they got their leading parts in the first of the films in 1978, which also included big names Gene Hackman and Marlon Brando.

Kidder and Reeve went on to star in three more Superman movies, the fourth and last in 1987.

Both would remain known all-most entirely for their Superman roles and struggled to find other major parts. Reeve died in 2004.

Kidder also had a small part in 1978's "The Great Waldo Pepper" with Robert Redford, and starred as conjoined twins in Brian De Palma's 1973 "Sisters," and as the mother of a terrorized family opposite James Brolin in 1979's "The Amityville Horror."

Kidder had a debilitating car crash in 1990 that left her badly in debt, confined her to a wheelchair for most of two years and worsened the mental illness she had struggled with for much of her life.

That struggle became public in 1996 when she was found dead and filthy in a yard not far from the studio where she once filmed parts of "Superman."

She fought through her illness and continued working, however, appearing in small films and television shows and amassing credits until 2017.

She spent the last decades of her life living in Montana and engaging in political activism, including protesting the U.S. military action in Iraq.

Kidder was married and divorced three times and is survived by a daughter, Maggie McGuane.

MUST-CRY TV

Comedies few and far between on NBC's latest prime-time schedule

By STEVEN ZEITCHIK
The Washington Post

For decades, NBC was the network of comedy, from the must-see tvc of "Seinfeld" and "Friends" in the 1990s to "30 Rock," "The Office" and "Parks and Recreation" this century.

But laughter is giving way to sobbing. Comedies are quickly vanishing from the top broadcaster's prime-time schedule. At Monday's upfront presentation, where the network pitches its lineup to advertisers, it spent very little time on the laughs, going to a tear-filled well again and again.

The network emphasized "This Is Us," referring to the drama repeatedly and bringing out the entire cast to the Radio City Music Hall stage to take a bow. A schmaltzy teaser for the new season — complete with star Mandy Moore choking up and losing it several times — was given a prominent slot in the presentation.

Ditto for footage for new dramas "The Village," a figures-from-the-neighborhood ensemble that looks to challenge "This Is Us" in the tissue-pulling department; "Manifest," a family melodrama about survivors of a mysterious plane crash; and the medical drama "New Amsterdam." By contrast, the network has scheduled just one new comedy for the fall, the Amy Poehler executive-produced

"I Feel Bad," about a complicated mom and career woman.

In fact, only one NBC night in the fall will show comedy at all — Thursday, when the network will air its "Will & Grace" revival and "I Feel Bad." (It did pick up a few comedies for midseason.)

What's made NBC so cool to comedy?

Clearly a list of failed shows over the past few years have played a role. And the success of "This Is Us" — the show's second season regularly drew more than 10 million total viewers — has spurred the network to try to build off that success.

But a more fundamental change might also be a factor. Comedy has proved hard to launch in the age of viral video, as audiences tend to gobble up laughs in five-minute chunks, leaving the broadcast networks to focus on more engagement-minded dramas that the Internet can't easily replicate. In 2011-2012, a total of eight comedies cracked the TV-ratings top 20 among the all-important adults 18-49 demographic. Last year? Just two did.

Clearly, networks haven't given up on comedies entirely. The big new projects for ABC's "Roseanne" revival testify to that. But NBC is demonstrating that a winning strategy can be built with very few comedies. Next season will bring more of the same on the network.

You'll laugh, you'll cry, but mostly you'll cry.

The success of NBC's "This Is Us" — scenes of which are shown above — has been a major contributor to the network's teary television trend.

NBC

Pioneering 'New Journalist' author Tom Wolfe dies

Associated Press

Author Tom Wolfe, who chronicled everything from hippies to the space race before turning his sharp eye to fiction, has died. He was 87.

Wolfe's agent Lynn Nesbit told The Associated Press that Wolfe died of an infection in a New York City hospital. Additional details were not immediately available.

The "new journalism" reporter and novelist insisted that the only way to tell a great story was to go out and report it. His writing style was rife with exclamation points, italics and improbable words.

Among his acclaimed books were "The Right Stuff" and "The Bonfire of the Van-

ities," a satire of Manhattan-style power and justice that became one of the best-selling books of the '80s.

Other news

■ Thomas Markle, father of royal bride-to-be Meghan Markle, has been quoted as saying he will not attend his daughter's wedding to Prince Harry this week after suffering a reported heart attack amid the intense media interest around the nuptials. Celebrity news website TMZ reported Monday that the elder Markle has decided to stay away amid criticism over his decision to pose for snatched up wedding-preparation shots taken by a paparazzi agency.

■ U2 will put on a special one-night show at New York's historic Apollo Theater. Howard Stern on Tuesday announced the invitation-only event for SiriusXM subscribers during his show on the satellite music service. The company says U2 will play songs from its "Songs of Experience" album along with classics from its career.

■ A U.S. Marine Corps veteran and the military dog she served with during the Iraq War are being inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame. Cpl. Megan Leavey and a German shepherd named Sgt. Rex were wounded by a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2006. Their story of their service and Leavey's fight to keep Rex after returning to the U.S. was told in a 2017 film.

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Seattle to tax large companies to help homeless

By PHUONG LE
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Seattle's largest businesses such as Amazon and Starbucks will have to pay a new tax to help fund homeless services and affordable housing under a measure approved by city leaders.

The City Council unanimously passed a compromise plan Monday that taxes businesses making at least \$20 million in gross revenues about \$275 per full-time worker each year — lower than the \$500 per worker initially proposed. The so-called "head tax" would raise roughly \$48 million a year to build new affordable housing units and provide emergency homeless services.

The debate over who should pay to solve a housing crisis exacerbated by Seattle's rapid economic growth comes after weeks of tense exchanges, raucous meetings and a threat by Amazon, the city's larg-



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

People fill a hallway before a Seattle City Council meeting where the council voted on a "head tax" Monday in Seattle.

est employer, to stop construction planning on a 17-story building near its hometown headquarters.

Amazon, Starbucks and business groups sharply criticized the council's decision after Monday's vote. They called it a tax on jobs and questioned whether city of-

ficials were spending current resources effectively. One state Republican leader said he would seek legislation next year to make clear that a city tax on employees, wages or hours is illegal.

Seattle-based Starbucks had harsh words for its hometown lead-

ers. It accused the city of spending without accountability while ignoring that hundreds of children sleep outside.

"If they cannot provide a warm meal and safe bed to a 5-year-old child, no one believes they will be able to make housing affordable or address opiate addiction," Starbucks' John Kelly said in a statement.

For Seattle's liberal City Council, the discussion Monday centered not so much on whether there should be a head tax but how big it should be. Four bill sponsors initially pitched a tax of \$500 per full-time employee a year but a compromise proposal emerged over the weekend after they couldn't muster the six votes needed to override a potential veto by Mayor Jenny Durkan.

Other cities have implemented similar taxes, but critics say Seattle's tax could threaten the booming local economy and

drive away jobs.

Nearly 600 large employers — roughly 3 percent — would pay the tax starting in 2019. Amazon, the city's largest employer with 45,000 workers, would take the biggest hit.

Amazon Vice President Drew Herdener said in a statement Monday that the company was disappointed.

He noted that city revenues have grown dramatically and that the city "does not have a revenue problem — it has a spending efficiency problem."

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (May 16)	\$1.2234
Dollar buys (May 16)	69.8174
British pound (May 16)	\$1.39
Japanese yen (May 16)	107.80
South Korean won (May 16)	1,044.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3772
British pound	\$1.3461
Canada (dollar)	1.2930
China (Yuan)	6.3786
Denmark (Krone)	6.2966
Egypt (Pound)	17.8301
Euro	\$1.1830/8453
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8499
Hungary (Forint)	268.46
Israel (Shekel)	3.6600
Japan (Yen)	110.30
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3016
Norway (Krone)	8.1337
Philippines (Peso)	52.60
Poland (Zloty)	3.63
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3447
South Korea (Won)	1,078.87
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0039
Thailand (Baht)	32.99
Turkey (New Lira)	4.4577

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (e.g., Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom for purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

MARKET WATCH

May 14, 2018

Dow Jones Industrials	68.24
	24,899.41
Nasdaq composite	8.43
	7,411.31
Standard & Poor's 500	2.41
	2,730.13
Russell 2000	-6.45
	1,600.34

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.75
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.69
3-month bill	1.89
30-year bond	3.13

Uber changes policy for alleged misconduct on service

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Uber's ride-hailing service will give its U.S. passengers and drivers more leeway to pursue claims of sexual misconduct, its latest attempt to shed its reputation for brushing aside bad behavior.

The shift announced Tuesday will allow riders and drivers to file allegations of rape, sexual assault and harassment in courts and mediation, rather than being locked into an arbitration hearing.

The San Francisco company is also scrapping a policy requiring all settlements of sexual misconduct to be kept confidential, giv-

ing victims the choice of whether they want to make their allegations public.

It's a conciliatory step from CEO Dara Khosrowshahi. He was hired last August amid a wave of revelations and allegations about rampant sexual harassment in Uber's workforce, a cover-up of a massive data breach, dirty tricks and stolen trade secrets.

Khosrowshahi has vowed to "do the right thing," repair the damage from previous missteps and lure back alienated riders who defected to rivals such as Lyft.

The changes governing sexual misconduct come a month after Uber announced it will do crimi-

nal background checks on its U.S. drivers annually and add a 911 button for summoning help in emergencies. It's an effort to reassure its riders and address concerns that it hadn't done enough to keep crooks from using its service to prey on potential victims.

Giving victims of sexual assault or perceived sexual harassment more options sends an important message that Uber is taking the issue more seriously, said Kristen Houser, a spokeswoman for Ralliance, a coalition of groups working with Uber to prevent sexual abuse on its service.

By the end of the year, Uber will also start to publicly report incidents of alleged sexual mis-

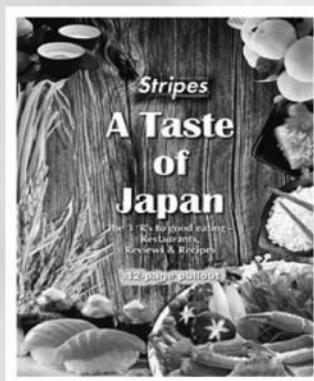
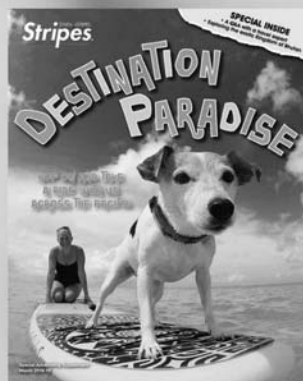
conduct in hopes of establishing more transparency about the issue throughout the ride-hailing and traditional taxi industries.

WEATHER OUTLOOK



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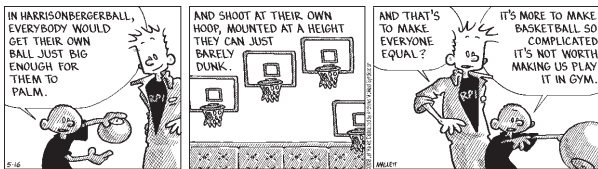
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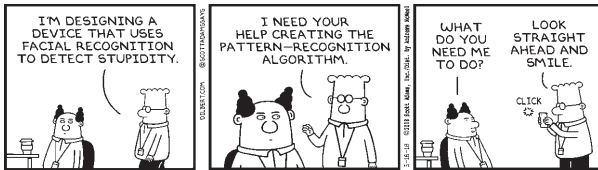
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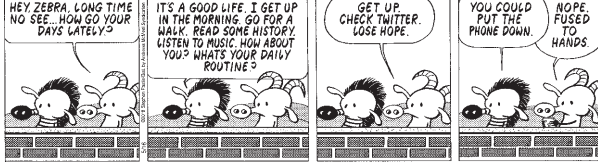
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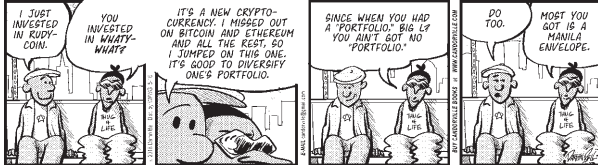
Pearls Before Swine



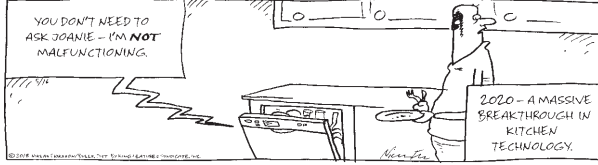
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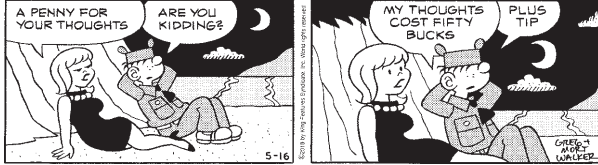
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13				14		
15					16				17		
18							19	20			
		21				22					
23	24	25		26		27		28		29	30
31		32		33		34		35			
36			37		38		39		40		
		41			42		43		44		
45	46					47			48	49	50
51					52	53					
54					55				56		
57					58				59		

ACROSS

- 1 Lettuce unit
- 5 Motorist's org.
- 8 Getz of jazz
- 12 Woody's son
- 13 San Francisco's — Hill

- 14 Horseback game
- 15 "Yikes!"
- 17 Rainbow
- 18 Sanctuary
- 19 Legislative group
- 21 Mount state
- 22 Uppity one
- 23 100 percent
- 26 Carrier to Amsterdam
- 28 Run — of the law
- 31 Prejudice
- 33 Feminine principle
- 35 Unravel
- 36 Ancient Mexican
- 38 Jewel
- 40 Exist
- 41 Dutch cheese
- 43 "That feels so good!"
- 45 Lunar craft
- 47 "Jeopardy!" fodder
- 51 Apple computer
- 52 Site of Asia's Victoria Peak Garden
- 54 Fill fully
- 55 — chi
- 56 Coup d'—

- 57 Till bills
- 58 Deluge refuge
- 59 Lairs

DOWN

- 1 "Funny!"
- 2 Love god
- 3 Friend
- 4 Holmes' creator
- 5 Deviation
- 6 "You've got mail" co.
- 7 Void
- 8 "Frasier," to
- 9 "Cheaters"
- 10 Mountainous area of Afghanistan
- 10 Landed
- 11 Schnozz
- 16 Gloom
- 20 Disney deer
- 23 Lawyers' org.
- 24 Designer Claiborne
- 25 Time near a deadline
- 27 Russian jet
- 29 Eg. and Syr., once
- 30 Caustic cleaner
- 32 Turns on the charm
- 34 Tidy type
- 37 Nev. neighbor
- 39 Actress Helgenberger
- 42 Maestro Zubin —
- 44 Increased
- 45 Japanese soup
- 46 Muscat's land
- 48 Cast a ballot
- 49 — uproar
- 50 Literary reps
- 53 Crew tool

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	P	E	D	P	H	O	L	E	N	A
L	O	G	E	L	O	O	I	C	E	D
B	U	G	B	E	A	R	S	T	R	O
A	R	S	T	I	N	S	T	U	N	S
			J	A	N	P	I	E		
L	E	G	I	T	Y	E	A	R	E	N
O	M	I	T	B	A	R	B	A	N	A
B	U	T	T	E	R	Y	C	U	R	E
			E	M	O	H	O	G		
S	H	A	R	P	D	I	N	S	A	M
L	I	M	B	B	U	G	J	U	I	C
A	L	O	U	O	O	H	F	L	I	T
B	O	R	G	A	S	S	O	L	D	E

5-16

CRYPTOQUIP

SKML YWHUP RWH YMUU OL

SKFD RWH'QF PWODV M

DWLESWQLKR PFFP OD IQOVOP

SFMLKFQ? YWUP IFML.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DON'T CRY "BOO! GOTCHA!" AT ME UNLESS YOU WANT TO BEGIN A BIG SCUFFLE. THEM'S FRIGHT'N' WORDS!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals C


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Tennis

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Singles

Men

Pablo Carrero Bustos (10), Spain, def. Jared Donaldson, United States, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

Robin Haase, Netherlands, def. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

Aljaz Bedene, Slovenia, def. Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, 6-4, 6-4.

Koki Nishikori, Japan, def. Feliciano Lopez, Spain, 7-5 (5), 6-4.

David Goffin (9), Belgium, def. Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, 6-1, 6-2.

Philipp Kohlschreiber, Germany, def. Karan Khachanov, Russia, 7-5 (7), 6-7 (7), 6-6.

Marco Cecchinato, Italy, def. Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, 2-6, 7-5, 6-4.

Albert Ramos-Violas, Spain, def. Federico Delbonis, Argentina, 2-6, 7-5, 6-1.

Ivan Dodig (11), Serbia, def. Alexander Dolgoplov, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-3.

Matteo Berrettini, Italy, def. Frances Tiafoe, United States, 6-3, 7-6 (1).

Benoit Paire, France, def. Richard Gasquet, France, 6-4, 6-4.

Kyle Edmund, Britain, def. Gael Monfils, Tunisia, 6-3, 6-6, 6-3.

Francesca Schiavone, def. Mael Maziari, France, 6-3, 6-1.

Women

First Round

Johanna Konta, Britain, def. Magdalena Rybakovska, Slovakia, 6-2, 6-2.

Petra Martić, Croatia, def. Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-2.

Andrea Krunic, Serbia, def. Roberta Vinci, Italy, 6-2, 6-0.

Lucy Brown, Japan, def. Camilla Rosatello, Italy, 6-1, 6-2.

Naomi Osaka, Japan, def. Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, 6-3, 6-3.

Madison Keys (1), United States, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-4, 6-2.

Donna Vekic, Croatia, def. Carla Suarez Navarro, Spain, 6-1, 6-2.

Dominika Cibulkova, Slovakia, def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 6-1, 6-7 (5).

Alison Van Uytendaele, Belgium, def. Sam Stosur, Australia, 6-7 (6), 6-3, 6-2.

Zhang Shuai, China, def. Mihaela Bucurariu, Romania, 6-3, 7-6 (2).

Daria Gavrilova, Australia, def. Natalia Vikhlyantseva, Russia, 5-7, 6-4, 6-3.

Anett Kontaveit, Estonia, def. Coco Vandeweghe (12), United States, 6-1, 6-1.

Sloane Stephens (9), United States, def. Barbora Strýcnová, Czech Republic, 6-7 (6), 6-3, 6-1.

Doubles

First Round

Raven Klaassen, South Africa, and Michaël Venus, New Zealand, def. Ryan Harrison, United States, and Fernando Verdasola, Argentina, 6-3, 6-2.

Sam Querrey and Rajeev Ram, United States, def. Adrian Panaru and Lucas Pouille, France, 6-3, 7-5.

Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Andrés Panizza, Argentina, def. Oscar Schwartzman, Argentina, and Denis Shapovalov, Canada, 6-2, 6-2.

First Round

Raquel Atawo, United States, and Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, def. Olga Savchuk and Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, 6-3, 6-2.

Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, and Renata Vorachova, Czech Republic, def. Lara Arrauzabeitia, Spain, and Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, 3-6, 6-3, 10-5.

Daria Gran and Maria Trevisan, Italy, def. Peng Shuai and Wang Yifan, China, 7-5 (6), 6-3.

Veronika Kuznetsova, Russia, and Karolina Pliskova, Czech Republic, def. Larissa Savchenko, Taiwan, and Deborah Sands (5), United States, 7-5, 7-6 (3).

Sorana Cristea, Romania, and Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, def. Magdalena Rybakovska, Slovakia, and Anastasiya Sevastova, Latvia, 7-6 (4), 6-3.

Lucy Brown, Japan, and Daria Gavrilova, Australia, def. Debora Schuurs (8), Netherlands, def. Nicole Pietrangeli, United States, and Kiki Bertens, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2.

Vania King, United States, and Katarina Srebotnik, Slovenia, def. Deborah Sands (5), United States, 7-5, 7-6 (3).

Chiesa and Alice Matteucci, Italy, 7-5, 6-0.

Lin Hao-ching, Taiwan, and Yang Zhaoxuan, China, def. Shuko Aoyama and Miyu Kato, Japan, 6-4, 6-4.

College softball

NCAA Division I tournament

Double elimination

Thursday, May 17

32 Regional

At Eugene, Ore.

BYU (32-20) vs. Drake (43-10)

Albany (NY) (32-14) vs. Iowa (47-7)

Friday, May 18

Lexington Regional

At Lexington, Ky.

Michigan (43-11) vs. Notre Dame (32-11)

Ill.-Chicago (33-19) at Kentucky (33-19)

Columbia Regional

At Columbia, S.C.

Liberty (41-2) vs. Hofstra (40-12)

UNCG (46-11) at South Carolina (45-11)

Tempe Regional

At Tempe, Ariz.

Long Beach State (42-12) vs. Ole Miss (30-23)

New Mexico State (29-22) at Arizona State (43-11)

Seattle Regional

At Seattle, Wash.

Boise State (32-24) vs. Minnesota (39-15)

Boise State (40-14) at Washington (44-8)

Tuscaloosa Regional

At Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Oregon State (28-26) vs. Wisconsin (28-17)

Midline Tenn. (39-20) at Alabama (33-20)

Fayetteville Regional

At Fayetteville, Ark.

Wichita State (38-21) vs. Oklahoma State (38-20)

DePaul (35-15) at Arkansas (39-15)

Normal Regional

At Normal, Okla.

UConn (42-7) vs. Iowa (33-23)

Boston U. (39-18) at Oklahoma (50-30)

Los Angeles Regional

At Los Angeles

Cal Fullerton (33-23) vs. Texas Tech (42-14)

Sacramento State (31-18) at UCLA (50-54)

At Tucson, Ariz.

Mississippi State (36-21) vs. North Dakota State (33-17)

St. Francis (Pa.) (39-17) at Arizona (40-14)

Baton Rouge Regional

At Baton Rouge, La.

Houston (38-20) vs. Texas Tech (38-14)

Fordham (32-21) at LSU (41-14)

Tallahassee Regional

At Tallahassee, Fla.

Auburn (40-15) vs. Kennesaw State (39-15)

Jacksonville State (33-23) at Florida State (47-10)

Athens Regional

At Athens, Ga.

Northwestern State (38-19) at California State (34-19)

James Madison (42-12) vs. Ohio State (34-14)

Harvard (22-21) at Texas A&M (40-18)

Momouth (32-14) at Tennessee (45-12)

College Station Regional

At College Station, Texas

McNeese (40-19) vs. Baylor (36-16)

Prairie View (20-21) at Texas A&M (40-18)

Gainesville Regional

At Gainesville, Fla.

Ohio State (34-14) vs. Utah State (38-21)

Bethune-Cookman (31-24) at Florida State (40-18)

Men's Division I tournament

Opening Round

Robert Morris 12, Canisius 6

Saturday, May 12

Yale 15, UMass 13

Duke 17, Villanova 11

Albany (NY) 18, Richmond 9

Loyola (Md.) 13, Virginia 11

Sunday, May 13

Maryland 14, Robert Morris 13

Denver 9, Notre Dame 9

Johns Hopkins 10, Georgetown 9

OT Cornell 10, Syracuse 9

Saturday, May 19

At James M. Shuart Stadium

Albany (14-3) vs. Loyola (Md.) (13-3)

Albany (NY) (15-2) vs. Denver (13-3)

At Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium

Annapolis, Md.

Maryland (13-3) vs. Cornell (14-3)

At Gillette Stadium

Foxborough, Mass.

Hempstead, N.Y.

Saturday, May 26

Maryland-Syracuse-Cornell winners

Johns Hopkins-Duke winner

Yale-Loyola (Md.)-Virginia winner

Albany (NY)-Denver winner

Championship

Monday, May 28

Semifinal winners

Golf

World rankings

Through May 13

1. Justin Thomas	USA	9.18
2. Bryson DeChambeau	USA	8.99
3. Jordan Spieth	USA	8.09
4. Jon Rahm	ESP	8.07
5. Justin Rose	ENG	7.84
6. Rickie Fowler	USA	6.96
7. Matt Kuchar	USA	6.87
8. Rory McIlroy	NIR	6.20
9. Paul Casey	GBR	6.17
10. Brooks Koepka	ENG	5.40
11. Tommy Fleetwood	USA	5.39
12. Sergio Garcia	ESP	5.29
13. Patrick Reed	USA	5.29
14. Alejandro Gomez	ARG	5.29
15. Henrik Stenson	SWE	5.04
16. Marc Leishman	AUS	4.90
17. Alex Noren	SWE	4.67
18. Bubba Watson	USA	4.54
19. Phil Mickelson	USA	4.19
20. Webb Simpson	USA	4.27
21. Tyrrell Hatton	GBR	4.12
22. Matt Kuchar	USA	3.98
23. Xander Schauffele	USA	3.92
24. Pat Perez	USA	3.73
25. Rafael Cabrera Bello	ESP	3.73
26. Bryson DeChambeau	USA	3.68
27. Kevin Kisner	USA	3.63
28. Justin Thomas	USA	3.52
29. Satoshi Kodaira	JPN	3.32
30. Charley Hoffman	USA	3.28

Ryder Cup points

Le Golf Gourou, France

Sept. 29-30, 2018

Through May 13

1. Patrick Reed	6,728.500
2. Tyrrell Hatton	6,728.500
3. Dustin Johnson	5,161.597
4. Jordan Spieth	4,679.158
5. Bubba Watson	4,102.300
6. Rickie Fowler	3,815.197
7. Matt Kuchar	3,712.300
8. Phil Mickelson	3,672.247
9. Webb Simpson	3,672.247
10. Matt Kuchar	3,211.850
11. Brian Harmon	2,793.115
12. Bryson DeChambeau	2,793.115
13. Kevin Kisner	2,240.881
14. Xander Schauffele	2,143.520
15. Tony Finau	2,017.758

Europe

European Points

1. Tyrrell Hatton	3,096.447.75
2. Justin Rose	2,861.320.00
3. Jon Rahm	2,088.832.27
4. Tyrrell Hatton	1,768.18
5. Matt Fitzpatrick	1,749.284.04
6. Tommy Fleetwood	1,307.209
7. Rory McIlroy	1,160.418.70
8. Alexander Levy	1,143.520.00
9. Sergio Garcia	1,044.158.39

World Points

1. Justin Rose	270.14
2. Jon Rahm	248.36
3. Tyrrell Hatton	176.18
4. Rory McIlroy	159.39
5. Matt Fitzpatrick	159.39
6. Sergio Garcia	126.63
7. Tyrrell Hatton	113.21
8. Ian Poulter	105.54
9. Matt Fitzpatrick	105.54
10. Paul Casey	101.86

Presidents Cup standings

2018 Presidents Cup Standings

At Royal Melbourne Golf Club

Melbourne, Australia

Dec. 12-15, 2017

Through May 13

1. Justin Thomas	2,200
2. Phil Mickelson	1,393
3. Patrick Reed	1,383
4. Xander Schauffele	1,383
5. Patton Kizzire	1,329
6. Xander Schauffele	1,329
7. Dustin Johnson	1,299
8. Tony Finau	1,265
9. Bubba Watson	1,265
10. Rickie Fowler	1,216
11. Patrick Cantlay	1,223
12. Pat Perez	1,223
13. Justin Rose	1,046
14. Andrew Landry	989
15. Brenden Stetson	989

International

United States

1. Jason Day	AUS	6.93
2. Hideki Matsuyama	AUS	6.93
3. Marc Leishman	AUS	6.46
4. Hideki Matsuyama	AUS	6.46
5. Kiradech Aphibarnrat	THA	3.19
6. Louis Oosthuizen	SAF	3.03
7. Denver 9, Notre Dame 9	USA	2.60
8. Cameron Smith	AUS	2.60
9. Justin Rose	GBR	2.60
10. Adam Hadwin	CAN	2.76
11. H. Haotong	CHN	2.76
12. Bubba Watson	USA	2.76
13. The Presidents	SAF	2.16
14. Jordan Woods	USA	2.16
15. Alex Miyazato	JPN	2.15

FedEx Cup leaders

SOCCER/SPORTS BRIEFS

Silencing non-playing blues vital for World Cup teams

By JOHN LEICESTER

Associated Press

PARIS — They won't score goals, make assists, tackles or important saves but will still be essential to the well-being of the 32 teams at the World Cup. Who are they?

The answer to this riddle: Players who never make it off the bench.

The mathematics of soccer — 11 starters, three substitutes and a fourth in extra time — mean all of the 23-man squads will have players who'll have to swallow their pride when coaches don't field them, try to keep their egos and frustrations in check and find other ways to be useful for their teams.

Conversely, for coaches, keeping second- or third-choice players motivated will be one of the big challenges, so they remain ready to play if needed and don't sulk and sap team morale. Groundwork will be laid before the tournament, with coaches warning players in advance that they may, at best, play only bit-parts in Russia.

"To make these players feel they are important, so they support the group, isn't always easy," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "I spend a lot of time with those who play a little or not at all."

Then aged 21, Australia mid-

fielder Massimo Luongo was one of four outfield players unused by coach Ange Postecoglou in the Soccerocos squad that went out in the group stage of the 2014 World Cup, losing to Chile, the Netherlands and Spain. Although he was "just ecstatic" to make the trip to Brazil, Luongo says the lack of playing time was "difficult."

"We had a lot of midfielders and I was the newest and the youngest," he recalled in an interview with The Associated Press. "It's not nice, obviously, missing out, especially when you think, 'Oh, I could have a chance of just playing in a World Cup, even if it's for a minute.' It was a bit upsetting."

"It left, like, that little hole in my belly that wasn't filled," Luongo added. "So for this World Cup I'm just starving to play." For a player who isn't first choice, the second-best scenario is to play a brilliant cameo, like Portugal's Eder at the 2016 European Championship. The forward barely featured, used only as a late substitute in a couple of group-stage matches and not at all in the knockout games, before coach Fernando Santos brought him on in the 79th minute of the final against France, as Portugal's third and last substitute. He scored the winning goal, in extra time.

Unused players who don't get to make an on-field impact can still help the team dynamic off the

field. Goalkeeper Nick Rimando, taken to the 2014 World Cup but not played by the U.S. team, says he put in extra shifts in training, so first-choice keeper Tim Howard didn't have to waste energy in goal and could stay fresh for matches.

Some bench players tell themselves that by training doubly hard, they help keep first-choice players on their toes, toughen them up for matches and stop them from getting complacent about their spot on the team. Australia's Postecoglou asked his bench to play like Chile, the Netherlands and Spain in training, to prepare his starting XI to face them, Luongo said.

"You have to try to make it as realistic as possible for the team that is playing," he said.

Popular bench players can also help teams gel and maintain morale as World Cup days away from home stretch into weeks. Rimando said "a big part" of him being selected in 2014 "was that I got along with the guys, interacted with them great and brought the team together."

"Just hanging around with everybody, being easy going, make sure everybody was light on their feet, not too nervous, joking around here and there when need be, just kind of keeping everybody light," he said in an interview. "I didn't have an ego going in there that I needed to play."



IAN SEKRETAREW/AP

Australia's Massimo Luongo, center, was one of four players unused by coach Ange Postecoglou in the 2014 World Cup.

Sulking about not playing "can be damaging to the team" and can't be tolerated, he added.

"Once one person does that it kind of trickles down and brings a bad vibe on the group," he said. "Some people you need to have a chat with alone. Some people you can yell at in front of the whole team. Everybody is different in that way. If you do have somewhat of a cancer on the team, you need to take care of it quickly because that can spread really, really quick."

Marc Wilmots, Belgium's coach in 2014, said he warned players in advance to behave if they didn't play. He recalled telling one young midfielder: "I don't want players who'll look out for themselves. I want players who'll serve our country. There are four top players but just two of them will play. And if I see one of them

sulking, I'll send him home."

"That work is done in advance," he told the AP. "Before selecting the 23, it's important to look a bit at the psychological profile of each player, because you have to create a group, not individuals."

In the first of his four World Cups as a player, Wilmots didn't get on the field at all in Italy in 1990, but still cherished the experience.

"I learned from the veterans, watching how they were and how they carried themselves and the details of the profession," he said.

Luongo said that despite not playing, the Brazil World Cup changed him.

"That has been my biggest learning curve, and I probably grew as a player most in that little spell," he said. "When I came back to my club, I felt I was head and shoulders a different player."

Briefly

Barcelona, Madrid back 24-team Club World Cup

Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain — Barcelona has given its backing to FIFA's plans to expand the Club World Cup to a 24-team competition played every four years.

Barcelona's board of directors says the expanded tournament would be "exciting, dynamic, inclusive and prestigious."

The Liga champion regards as favorable the subsequent elimination of "two FIFA competitions, the Confederations Cup [for national teams] and the current Club World Cup" played every year by seven clubs in December.

Barcelona says FIFA's plans would also "create a global platform for clubs to contribute to the growth of their brands."

Rival Spanish powerhouse Real Madrid has also said it likes the proposal.

Madrid is part of the European Club Association, which has voiced concerns about FIFA President Gianni Infantino's proposal for a quadrennial Club World Cup to replace the annual tournament and pushed for play-

ers to get more mandatory rest periods.

Europe's top domestic competitions, including the English Premier League and Spain's La Liga, have also opposed FIFA's plans.

But Madrid, winner of the last two editions of the Club World Cup, is endorsing Infantino's vision of the tournament being played every four years in June or July with 12 representatives from Europe.

Madrid's director of institutional relations, Emilio Butragueño, believes fans would prefer the new tournament over the current seven-team format.

"We honestly believe it could be an attractive competition," he said. "We see it that way as do other important clubs in Europe, who see the possibility favorably."

Cano suspended 80 games for drug violation

SEATTLE — Seattle Mariners All-Star second baseman Robinson Cano has been suspended

80 games for violating baseball's joint drug agreement.

The league announced Cano's suspension Tuesday in a stunning development for the stalwart in the middle of the Mariners' lineup and a club expected to contend for a postseason spot in the American League. Cano tested positive for Furosemide, a diuretic. In a statement released through the players' association, Cano says, "This substance was given to me by a licensed doctor in the Dominican Republic to treat a medical ailment." He said he didn't realize it was banned.

It's the first major strike in a career that has Hall of Fame potential. Cano was trending toward being one of the few current players with a chance to reach 3,000 hits in his career and has been a consummate defensive standout. Cano is an eight-time All-Star but now must deal with the stigma of a suspension.

In other MLB news:

■ Major League Baseball has extended the administrative leave of Toronto closer Roberto Osuna

by seven days through May 21 as the commissioner's office investigates a charge of assault filed against the All-Star.

Osuna was put on administrative leave by MLB on May 8. The pitcher was charged with one count of assault, according to Toronto Police Constable Jenniferjit Sidhu.

The commissioner's office announced the extension Monday. Osuna, who is from Mexico, is scheduled to appear in court June 18.

Administrative leave is not considered discipline. Osuna remains on the restricted list and continues to receive his \$5.3 million salary but is ineligible to play.

Commissioner Rob Manfred has the option of suspending Osuna either without pay, or with pay pending the resolution of legal proceedings — a penalty that later could be converted to without pay. Osuna could challenge any discipline before arbitrator Mark Irving.

■ The St. Louis Cardinals have placed Adam Wainwright back

on the 10-day disabled list after the right-hander struggled with velocity in his last start and said he needed "to pause and get it right."

The 36-year-old Wainwright also was on the DL with elbow inflammation before returning Sunday in San Diego. But he lasted just 2½ innings in the Cardinals' 5-3 loss to the Padres.

Wainwright is 1-3 with a 4.00 ERA in four starts this season.

AP: Tepper to buy Panthers for \$2.2 billion

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Carolina Panthers are being sold for an NFL-record \$2.2 billion.

Hedge fund manager David Tepper has agreed to buy the Panthers from team founder Jerry Richardson, two people familiar with the situation said Tuesday. The people spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team has not yet announced the sale.

The purchase is subject to a vote at the NFL owners meeting next week in Atlanta.

PREAKNESS/GAMBLING

Rivals on track, but friends off

By STEPHEN WHYNO
Associated Press

Bob Baffert has spent his whole life following D. Wayne Lukas.

As a teenager at the quarter horse track in Arizona where Baffert tagged along with his dad and learned about racing, he looked up to Lukas as a legend.

"I'll never forget when he came in with his fancy trailer and man, there's Wayne Lukas," Baffert said. "He was huge then. He's always set the bar."

Baffert even asked Lukas for a job out of high school. Lukas turned Baffert down, but in the four-plus decades since, they've developed a friendship as deep as their combined success.

They are two of the best thoroughbred trainers in racing history and their paths are crossing again this week at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore. They will go head to head in the Preakness, a race that each has won six times.

"We've become good friends because we have a lot in common, we had a lot of quarter horse stories and friends that we knew coming up," Baffert said. "It's been a lot of fun."

Baffert goes into the Preakness with Kentucky Derby winner Justify, the heavy favorite to advance to the Belmont Stakes with the chance to give the 65-year-old his sixth Triple Crown champion in four years. A win Saturday would tie the 83-year-old Lukas' record of 14 Triple Crown victories.

Lukas said Baffert "is going to roll right past that" mark.

"Bob is an excellent horseman," said Lukas, who is expected to start Bravazo and Sporting Chance in the Preakness. "Not only has he got a good clientele base and gets some nice horses, but he absolutely knows what to do with them."

Baffert's dad got him involved in horse racing at age 11 and he considers his father his mentor—but he holds Lukas in high regard. Lukas has been an icon and rival for Baffert over the years, especially in the 1990s and 2000s when owner Bob Lewis pitted the two against each other.

Calling Lukas one of the hardest



Ed Reinke/AP

As a teenager, trainer Bob Baffert, left, looked up to trainer D. Wayne Lukas, right, as a legend. They've developed a friendship as deep as their combined success as two of the best thoroughbred trainers in racing history that extends to this week when they go head-to-head again in the Preakness Stakes each has won six times.

workers he has ever seen, Baffert set out to duplicate those efforts with incredible success. Lukas and Baffert just kept winning—including a combined 34 Breeders Cup victories to go along with the Triple Crown victories—and became closer along the way.

"The one thing that you quickly find out is who you can greatly respect and respect is what really starts to bond these friendships that we develop over the years," Lukas said. "I have developed a deep friendship and respect with him and his whole family, (his wife) Jill and everybody for the simple reason that I think he's a very good horseman and he does a very, very good job."

Baffert has done such a good job that Lukas considers him one of the top three or four trainers in history. If Justify wins Saturday, it would tie him with 19th-century trainer R.W. Walden for the most Preakness victories.

Leading up to Saturday's race, Baffert will again share a barn with Lukas, who is looking for his first win on the Triple Crown trail since 2013. Despite the drought, Lukas is still the standard by which many younger trainers measure themselves.

"To me, he is still above me," Baffert said. "He thinks he's going to win everything."

As much as Baffert praises Lukas for changing quarter-horse and thoroughbred racing, Lukas acknowledges Baffert's more recent impact. The old-school Lukas looks to Baffert's management model now and jokes, "I'm saddling horses for him and I'm sort of his assistant."

"Our game is more than just trying to race horses," Lukas said. "It's managing people, managing horses, developing studs and put them out, effecting the breeding industry, causing economic impact in the sale ring and Bob has done all of that. ... Bob affects every facet of the industry in some way or another."

Baffert has come a long way from the 18-year-old who Lukas had no job for back in the day. Baffert ended the 37-year-old Triple Crown drought with American Pharoah in 2015 and continues to build his résumé race by race.

"I learned it by trial and error—mostly error," Baffert said. "And I said (to Wayne), 'I'm sure glad you turned me down, because you'd be taking all the credit for this.'"

NFL asks Congress for gambling help

By STEVE MEGARGE
Associated Press

The NFL wants Congress to enact a framework for legalized sports betting in the wake of a Supreme Court ruling that clears the way for more states to allow sports gambling.

Supreme Court justices voted 6-3 on Monday to strike down a 1992 law that barred most state-authorized sports gambling. Before the Supreme Court ruling, Nevada was the only state that allowed people to bet on the results of a single game.

"Congress has long recognized the potential harms posed by sports betting to the integrity of sporting contests and the public confidence in these events," the NFL said in a statement. "Given that history, we intend to call on Congress again, this time to enact a core regulatory framework for legalized sports betting."

All the major leagues responded to a ruling that figures to have far-reaching implications throughout the sports world. The NHL noted that "today paves the way to an entirely different landscape—one in which we have not previously operated."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, a supporter of legalizing sports gambling, said his league would "remain active in ongoing discussions with state legislatures" about expanding wagering options.

Silver also said the league would like to see a federal framework instead of a state-by-state system. The NBA once opposed expanded sports betting but has long said it supports robust regulation.

The NBA and Major League Baseball have argued in recent months for a 1 percent cut of proceeds if legalized sports betting expands across the country, saying part of that money would be needed for additional compliance and enforcement efforts within the game.

"As each state considers whether to allow sports betting, we will continue to seek the proper protections for our sport, in part-

nership with other professional sports," Major League Baseball said in a statement.

Keith Whyte, the executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling, believes any governmental body and sports league that receives a direct percentage or portion of sports betting revenue must also dedicate funds to prevent and treat gambling problems.

"Some of that 1 percent of betting fees is going to come from people with uncontrollable gambling problems," Whyte said. "We believe by taking a cut of this money, (the leagues would) put themselves in the position of having to do something to reduce those costs. Great profits come with great responsibility."

MLB said it would "continue to support legislation that creates air-tight coordination and partnerships between the state, the casino operators and the governing bodies in sports" toward protecting the integrity of the game. Major League Soccer issued a statement seeking similar cooperation.

"Although Major League Soccer is supportive of today's Supreme Court decision, we also believe that it is critical that state legislatures and other regulatory bodies work closely with the professional sports leagues in the United States to develop a regulatory framework to protect the integrity of each of our respective sports," the MLS said in its statement. "We look forward to being a part of that process."

Plenty of leagues already have taken steps to make sure their players are educated on the issue.

For example, last year the PGA Tour hired Genesis Sports to help with its new "Integrity Program" that began at the start of the year. The program requires players on all six circuits the PGA Tour manages to take part in an online tutorial that, among other things, illustrates some of the far-reaching effects of gambling.

The ruling will impact college sports as well as the pro leagues.

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X
EXCHANGE

JEX

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Seattle						
LeBlanc	6	3	0	0	0	4
Pazos W1-0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Vincent H	1	0	0	0	0	0
Diaz S,14-15	1	0	0	0	0	3
Minnesota						
Odorizzi	6	4	0	0	1	7
Magill	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hildenberger L,1-1	1	2	1	1	0	1
Hughes	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Odorizzi (Cruz). T—2:53. A—16,581 (38,649).

MLB

Roundup

Angels Heaney, Calhoun shut down Astros

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — After Andrew Heaney induced a long fly-out with his 100th and final pitch, he left the mound with the fervent hope that the Los Angeles Angels were on their way to a victory that would deliver a statement to the mighty Houston Astros.

With late help from Kole Calhoun's arm in right field, the Angels made it.

Heaney struck out 10 during a career-high eight innings of four-hit ball, and the Angels pulled percentage points ahead of Houston atop the AL West with a 2-1 victory over the Astros on Monday night.

"It's good to get a win to start a series against a divisional team, and a team that we think we're going to be fighting tooth and nail with to the end," said Heaney, who also matched his career best in strikeouts.

Justin Upton singled home the tiebreaking run in the sixth inning for the Angels (25-16), who beat the defending World Series champions (26-17) for the third time in four meetings this season.

Luis Valbuena drove in an early run for the Angels in the opener of a three-game series.

Heaney (2-2) led the way, limiting Houston to five baserunners in eight innings while outpitching Lance McCullers Jr., who took his first loss in seven starts since April 6.

"I think we want to establish that it's not a [surprise] we just won that game," Heaney said. "It's [saying] we can beat those guys. We're just as good, if not better than these guys."

Houston native Justin Anderson allowed three baserunners in the ninth, but the Angels rookie still earned his first career save with help from Calhoun, whose struggles at the plate haven't affected his superb defense.

After the right fielder caught Alex Bregman's long fly in foul territory, he pivoted and threw out speedy George Springer, who tagged up and attempted to take second.

"It helped us win the game, so

that's why I liked it," Calhoun said.

Calhoun's throw and Andrelton Simmons' clever tag on Springer completed a double play with Calhoun's major league-leading sixth outfield assist.

"That's a hard throw to make, but he's one of the best," Springer said of Calhoun. "He made a great throw, and you move on to tomorrow."

Anderson then walked Jose Altuve's single and Carlos Correa in the ninth, but survived when Yuli Gurriel grounded out.

Max Stassi drove in an early run for the Astros, who lost for only the second time in seven games.

"That's a big win for us, playing one of the hottest teams in baseball," Anderson said. "Took a little longer, made it a little more interesting for everybody, but it was fun."

Athletics 6, Red Sox 5: At Boston, Sean Manaea beat the Red Sox again in his first outing against them since pitching a no-hitter, and Kris Davis hit one of three solo homers for Oakland.

Matt Joyce and Matt Olson also went deep for the A's, who had lost five of six to the Astros and Yankees. Davis connected for his team-leading 12th home run as Oakland handed Rickey Porello his first loss of the season.

Brewers 7, Diamondbacks 2: Arizona center fielder A.J. Pollock was injured trying to make a play on pinch-hitter Tyler Saladino's inside-the-park home run, and the host Diamondbacks lost their sixth straight game.

Pollock dived for Saladino's line drive in the ninth inning, missed and rolled over his glove hand, spraining his left thumb. He sat in center favoring his left arm while Saladino slid head-first for the 28th inside-the-park homer in club history. A trainer led Pollock off the field. The team expected to learn more about his injury Tuesday.

Braves 6, Cubs 5: Ozzie Albies hit a leadoff drive for his 13th homer. Jose Bautista belted a three-run shot and visiting Atlanta held off Chicago.



JAE C. HONG/AP

The Astros' George Springer, right, is tagged out by the Angels' Andrelton Simmons during the ninth inning on Monday in Anaheim, Calif. Springer tried to take second on a fly out. The Angels won 2-1.

Julio Teheran (4-1) pitched six innings and Tyler Flowers hit his first homer this season as NL-leading Atlanta (25-15) won for the sixth time in seven games. The surprising Braves moved 10 games over .500 for the first time since July 28, 2014.

Kris Bryant and Albert Almora Jr. each hit a two-run homer, but Jose Quintana (4-3) struggled for the Cubs.

Giants 10, Reds 7: Andrew McCutchen doubled in his first two at-bats to reach 1,500 career hits, and host San Francisco snapped Cincinnati's six-game winning streak.

McCutchen sparked a three-run first against Sal Romano (2-4) with his first hit and then drove in a run in the second inning with another double. Brandon Belt homered and drove in three runs to give the Giants consecutive wins following a six-game skid.

Mariners 1, Twins 0: First baseman Logan Morrison's throwing error in the eighth in-

ning accounted for the only run as visiting Seattle defeated Minnesota after a long rain delay.

In the makeup of an April 8 postponement, Dee Gordon led off the eighth with a double against reliever Trevor Hildenberger (1-1). Jean Segura laid down a sacrifice bunt and Morrison threw the ball into right field, allowing Gordon to score.

Rays 2, Royals 1: Tampa Bay's Adeiny Hechavarria danced around catcher Salvador Perez with an inventive slide at home plate to score the winning run against host Kansas City.

Hechavarria dashed home on Matt Duffy's single to right field in the sixth inning, sidestepped Perez to the right, then dove back toward the plate. Hechavarria faked toward the dish with his right hand, then jabbed his left hand just past Perez's outstretched glove to touch the plate. Umpire Rob Drake immediately signaled safe.

Ryan Yarbrough (3-2) allowed

one run in five innings for the Rays, and Duffy had three hits and drove in both runs. Alex Colome got his seventh save.

Tigers 6, Indians 3: Niko Goodrum homered twice and drove in five runs as injury-plagued Detroit beat Carlos Carrasco and visiting Cleveland.

Jose Ramirez hit his 13th homer for the Indians, but the AL Central leaders fell back to .500 and are only two games ahead of Detroit.

Rockies 6, Padres 4: Gerardo Parra hit a go-ahead, three-run homer off Kazuhisa Makita (0-1) in the sixth inning and rookie Noel Cueva went deep for the first time for visiting Colorado. Daniel Castro also homered for the Rockies, who won for the second time in six games.

Frammil Reyes made his big league debut for San Diego after leading all of professional baseball in homers with 14 while at Triple-A El Paso. He started in right field and went 0-for-4.

Zobrist defies MLB again with black spikes

By MIKE HELFGOT
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ben Zobrist was joined by Chicago Cubs teammates Kyle Schwarber and Steve Cishek in wearing black spikes on Monday despite a warning from Major League Baseball that he was in violation of the sport's uniform regulations.

Zobrist posted a letter from MLB on Instagram on Saturday that cited him for violating regulations requiring at least 51 percent of the exterior of a player's shoes be the club's designated

primary shoe color. For the Cubs, that color is blue.

The letter said Zobrist will be subject to discipline, including a fine, if he continued to wear non-compliant shoes.

Zobrist said he planned to contract Joe Torre, MLB's Chief Baseball Officer.

"I plan on calling Joe Torre today and seeing if we can talk about it," Zobrist said following the Cubs' 6-5 loss to Atlanta.

"We'll see. Maybe have an update tomorrow. My question is going to be why. We'll see what kind of answer I get. Why now? I think

all players are kind of wondering that. Hopefully I get an answer and we can move forward."

In his Instagram post, Zobrist wrote he has worn black cleats for day games at Wrigley Field the past two years to honor the game's past. He said he was inspired by watching highlights of greats such as Ernie Banks and Stan Musial in the 1950s and 1960s.

Players were issued black Jackie Robinson socks for Monday's game because it was a makeup of a rainout on April 15 — which was Jackie Robinson Day throughout

the major leagues.

"I was going to wear them back then, too," Cishek said. "I just decided I'm going to stick with it. They gave us those cool Jackie Robinson socks; I wanted to wear the throwback spikes with them too."

"The thing with Zo that happened the other day, it's like where did all this come from? Before, my understanding was MLB was telling the companies like New Balance and Nike they can do whatever they want. I think there is confusion among the players."



KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AP

The Cubs' Ben Zobrist runs to a first wearing black spikes on Monday despite a warning.

NHL PLAYOFFS

Knights bounce back, even series

By LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Jonathan Marchessault scored twice and said the expansion Vegas Golden Knights sent a message, bouncing back with a 3-1 series-evening win over the Winnipeg Jets on Monday night in Game 2 of the Western Conference final.

"Every time we need a big game as a group, we show up," Marchessault said. "We showed the hockey world we earned the right to be here."

Tomas Tatar scored 6:37 into the game for the Golden Knights and Marc-Andre Fleury finished with 30 saves.

Kyle Connor scored midway through the third period to pull Winnipeg within a goal. Marchessault restored the two-goal lead 1:28 later.

Connor Hellebuyck had 25 saves for the Jets.

After losing the series opener, Marchessault told reporters the team faced a must-win game.

"If you're going to talk out there in the media that you have to be better, I think you need to lead by example," he said. "I tried to do that."

Game 3 is Wednesday night in Las Vegas.

"I don't think anybody is panicking," Jets defenseman Jacob Trouba said. "We like our road game. We like where it was in the Nashville series."

Winnipeg won three times on the top-seeded Predators' home ice, including Game 7 last week.

The expansion Golden Knights appeared to be rusty in the series opener and the Jets scored three goals early in a 4-2 win about 48 hours after advancing out of the second round.

"It looked like they were going to pick up where they left off," he said. "They came out flying again with a lot of speed," Fleury said.

Fleury, who helped the Pittsburgh Penguins win three Stan-



TREVOR HAGAN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Vegas Golden Knights players celebrate after Jonathan Marchessault, center, scored during the first period of Game 2 Western Conference final against Winnipeg on Monday.

ley Cups, made key stops early and got help from teammates and a post in the opening minutes to keep the puck out of his net.

"Fleury had to make three or four really good saves in the first seven minutes," Vegas coach Gerard Gallant said. "We rebounded after that. We got that 2-0 lead and it was a different game for us. When teams are chasing the lead, it's tough for teams to battle back."

Winnipeg's Mark Scheifele, who has postseason-high 12 goals, got the puck past Fleury in the opening moments of the game and Vegas defenseman Nate Schmidt cleared it from the crease.

Vegas generated offense by making plays without the puck, forcing turnovers to set up goals.

"We were on them," Golden Knights forward Erik Haula said. "That's our game. We're a fast team. I think we showed that."

Indeed.

After the Jets failed to control the puck out of a corner in their end, Tatar ended up stuffing the puck in the net after hitting the side of the net with a shot.

Connor was pressured into turning over the puck near center ice late in the opening period and Reilly Smith set up Marchessault, his former Florida Panthers teammate, at the blue line and he scored on a breakaway

Scoreboard

Conference finals

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Washington 2, Tampa Bay 0
Washington 4, Tampa Bay 2
Washington 6, Tampa Bay 2
Tuesday: at Washington
Thursday: at Washington. **AFN-Sports: 2 a.m. Friday, CET; 9 a.m. Friday JKT.**
x-Saturday, May 19: at Tampa Bay
x-Monday, May 21: at Washington
x-Wednesday, May 23: at Tampa Bay

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Winnipeg 4, Vegas 2
Monday: Vegas 3, Winnipeg 1
Wednesday: at Vegas. **AFN-Sports: 2 a.m. Thursday CET; 10 a.m. Thursday JKT.**
Friday: at Vegas
Sunday: at Winnipeg
x-Tuesday, May 22: at Vegas
x-Thursday, May 24: at Winnipeg

Monday

Golden Knights 3, Jets 1

Vegas	2	0	1-3
Winnipeg	0	0	1-1

First Period—1. Vegas, Tatar 1 (Carpenker, Theodore), 13:22. 2. Vegas, Marchessault 5 (Smith), 17:22.
Third Period—3. Winnipeg, Connor 3 (Ehlers, Myers), 7:17 (opt.). 4. Vegas, Marchessault 6 (Karlsson, Smith), 8:45.
Shots on Goal—Vegas 13-8-7—28. Winnipeg 11-8-12-31.
Power-play opportunities—Vegas 0 of 2; Winnipeg 1 of 3.
Goalies—Vegas, Fleury 9-3 (31 shots-30 saves). Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 9-5 (28-25).
A—15,321 (15,294). T—2:28.

backhandler.

"There was about 57 minutes of that game that was pretty good for us," Jets captain Blake Wheeler said. "Three minutes of it got away from us."

The Jets closed the scoreless second period and started the third on the power play and still couldn't get the puck past Fleury.

Yet.

Winnipeg kept up the pressure on by relentlessly forechecking and drew another penalty early in the third. Connor took advantage, squeezing a shot between Fleury and the post from the bottom of the left circle 7:17 into the third.

That whipped the white-clad fans into a frenzy — triggering jeers of "Fleury! Fleury!" — and were quickly quieted by another Marchessault backhandler that beat Hellebuyck.

The Jets pulled their goaltender to add another skater over the last couple minutes of the game, but Fleury didn't let the puck get past him again.

Marchessault makes Vegas glad Panthers gave him up

By LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Jonathan Marchessault was left unprotected in the expansion draft by the Florida Panthers, who seemed to determine his breakout season was a fluke.

The Vegas Golden Knights selected Marchessault, and he averaged nearly a point a game in the regular season. He leads the team with six goals and 15 points in the playoffs.

Marchessault scored twice against the Winnipeg Jets in the series-typing 3-1 win in Game 2 of the Western Conference final Monday night.

"Yeah, I'm satisfied with my game," he said.

Florida was not satisfied, apparently, even though he scored 30 goals in his first full season and had one year left on his contract for a relative bargain of \$750,000. "I was surprised at the decision," he acknowledged. "I had a great season. I think

I was one of the top four players at the forward position there, but they did the best decision for their organization. It's been like that my whole career. It was a reality check. Just when you think you can be a little bit comfortable, you can't.

"After I heard I was unprotected, I moved on and hoped that Vegas would pick me and they did."

When the Golden Knights saw up close how good Marchessault was as their leading scorer in early January, they signed him to a \$30 million, six-year contract extension. He could have gambled on his future and cashed in even more on free agency this summer, but chose to stay with a team that finally believed in him.

"It was not a tough decision," said Marchessault, who finished the regular season with 27 goals and a career-high 75 points. "When I saw they wanted to keep me long term, I was happy because I wanted stability in my life. It's been a roller-coaster career. I was just happy to be able to buy a home and stay there."

The 5-foot-9, 174-pound Marches-

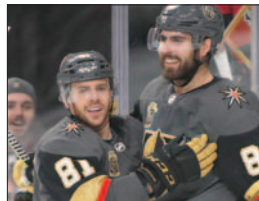
sault, married with three young children, bounced around earlier in his career after being undrafted.

"First time I saw Marchy, he was a skilled guy who stayed on the outside. Didn't really battle," said Golden Knights coach Gerard Gallant, who had Marchessault on his team in Florida before being fired. "The reason why he's a 30- to 40-goal scorer now is because he's more competitive. He'll go to those hard areas to score some goals. He plays a good, strong game. Small guy, but very competitive."

Before his 51-point season with the Panthers last season, he had a total of 19 points in parts of the three previous seasons with the Columbus Blue Jackets and Tampa Bay Lightning.

"It was always the underdog because of my size," he said.

Marchessault talked a big game after Vegas lost the series opener at Winnipeg, calling Monday a must-win game, and backed it up. He gave Vegas a two-goal lead in the first period and restored the two-goal lead 1:28 after Winnipeg's Kyle



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Jonathan Marchessault, left, was left unprotected by Florida and has shined in his first year with Vegas.

Connor scored midway through the third.

"If you're going to talk out there in the media that you have to be better, I think you need to lead by example," he said. "I tried to do that."

Game 3 is Wednesday in Las Vegas.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Teams eye future with lottery, combine

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

Even with the conference finals going on, the NBA's eyes turn to the future this week.

A future that, perhaps, will have less tanking.

The draft lottery — the last before changes come next year to dissuade tanking — is Tuesday night, and then about 70 players will partake in the draft combine that starts on Wednesday. Those events are both happening in Chicago, as are some various league meetings such as a gathering of NBA general managers and other front-office executives.

But the biggest news will be made by 14 pingpong balls that will decide who drafts No. 1 next month.

"We've got to see what happens in the lottery first and see where our position is," Memphis executive vice president of basketball operations John Hollinger said. "That's going to dictate a lot of the decisions that come after that and how we use our time after that."

Phoenix has a 25 percent chance of winning the No. 1 pick, followed by Memphis (19.9 percent), Dallas (13.8 percent) and Atlanta (13.7 percent). The rest of the candidates for No. 1 are Orlando (8.8 percent), Chicago (5.3), Sacramento (5.3), Cleveland (2.8), New York (1.7), Philadelphia (1.1), Charlotte (0.8), Detroit (0.7), the Los Angeles Clippers (0.6) and Denver (0.5).

Many of those teams were at the center of tanking questions this season. Now they'll see if it pays off.

"We did this year what we felt was in the long-term best interest of the Bulls," Chicago vice president of basketball operations John Paxson said. "It's not a situation

that any of us want to ever be in again. And it goes against everything as a competitive person that you believe in. But it's the way the system's set up."

For now, the NBA is changing the system.

Starting in 2019, with the NBA hoping that teams have less incentive to strive for the worst record and therefore the best chance of winning the lottery, the odds will be changing. The three teams with the worst regular-season record will each have a 14 percent chance of winning the No. 1 pick, the fourth-worst team will have a 12.5 percent chance and the fifth-worst 10.5 percent.

"My sense is we're still going to have some work to do," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said.

Tanking got plenty of attention this season, and a few minutes on Jan. 29 might have decided the race.

Phoenix and Memphis played that night. The Grizzlies scored 42 points in the second quarter — their only 40-point period all season — and forced the Suns into 10 consecutive misses in one stretch, on the way to a 120-109 win.

The Suns finished one game worse than the Grizzlies. Flip that Jan. 29 outcome, and it would be the Grizzlies with the best chance at the No. 1 pick.

"The league has been beating us up right now," said Phoenix guard Devin Booker, who hasn't come even close to making the playoffs and is already on the fourth head coach of his three-year career now that the Suns have hired Igor Kokoskov. "But I think it's going to be motivational for us. I know for myself, working out, I think about all the time. I never want to be in these situations again."

The new lottery format isn't the only



MIATT YORK/AP

Phoenix Suns head coach Igor Kokoskov, right, speaks as general manager Ryan McDonough listens Monday in Phoenix. Kokoskov will oversee a vastly improved team after they compiled the worst record in the NBA last season.

looming change related to drafts. It seems likely that by 2020, the one-and-done rule — in place since 2006 — will be gone and players will be allowed to jump from high school directly to the NBA again.

If that was the case this season, the rights to draft phenoms like R.J. Barrett, Zion Williamson and Cameron Reddish would probably be decided by those pingpong balls in Chicago on Tuesday. Instead, they're all going to Duke this fall.

So they won't be at the combine, nor will the likely top two picks in the June 21 draft — Arizona's Deandre Ayton, and Slovenia's Luka Doncic. Ayton declined the invitation to participate in Chicago, and Doncic's season in Europe isn't over yet.

"We sort of expected this, that we might not see the top couple guys there," Hollinger said. "So we just have to adjust from that and get our information in other ways."

Golden: Houston looks to regroup for Game 2 at home

Scoreboard

FROM BACK PAGE

Game 2 is Wednesday night in Houston.

Eric Gordon opened the final period with a three-pointer to get the top-seeded Rockets within 4, but Thompson scored the first eight points of a 13-4 run to make it 100-87 with about eight minutes left.

Houston used a 9-3 spurt, where James Harden scored five, to cut the lead to 103-96 with less than five minutes to go. But Thompson struck again, hitting a wide open three to leave the Warriors ahead by 10 with four minutes left.

Harden scored 41 to lead the Rockets, who lost at home for the second time this postseason.

"You're not going to come in and just knock them out," Houston coach Mike D'Antoni said. "They were too many times where we had mental lapses. We didn't switch properly, turned the ball over and missed too many layups. We need to do a better job of staying up mentally."

Now the Rockets are left to regroup after losing their leg up in the homecourt advantage they worked all season for.

"It's nice to have home court," D'Antoni said. "[But] we don't have it. Now we've got to get it."

Steph Curry added 18 for the Warriors, who are in the conference finals for a franchise-record fourth straight time. It's Hous-



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Rockets guard James Harden, right, loses control of the ball as he drives around Warriors guard Stephen Curry on Monday during the second half of Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

ton's first trip since 2015 when Golden State won the series in five games.

"I think he's going to get even better as the series goes on, which is good for us," Kerr said of Curry.

The Warriors, who are the second seed in the West, opened a playoff series away from Oracle Arena for the first time since 2014 when they lost to the Los Angeles Clippers 4-3 in the opening round.

Houston struggled to slow down Durant all night, and things

got even worse when Trevor Ariza picked up his fifth foul with about 10 minutes left in the third with Golden State up by 3. Durant made two baskets for the Warriors around one by Chris Paul that left the Warriors up 73-68 a couple of minutes later.

"He's one of the best scorers ever," D'Antoni said of Durant. "I thought he was extremely good. But we can withstand that. We can't withstand turning the ball over and giving up so many wide open threes."

Gordon added a layup for Houston after that, but Golden State scored the next six points, with a three-pointer from Thompson, to make it 79-70 with about 4½ minutes left in the third.

Houston ended a scoring drought of more than two minutes with a dunk by Harden seconds later and the Warriors followed with another run, scoring six straight points to extend it to 85-72 with just more than two minutes left in the third.

The Rockets rediscovered their offense after that, scoring the next eight points, powered by threes from Gordon and Gerald Green, to get within 85-80 with about a minute left in the quarter.

Durant added two free throws to close out the quarter and leave the Warriors up 87-80 entering the fourth.

"Houston, they never stop," Durant said. "They are always in the game with three-point shots. We try to get good shots every time down and defend on the other end."

They said it: Draymond Green on getting a technical early in the first quarter when he pushed Harden ashter a shot: "I was a bit overzealous, a bit amped up, but I'd rather that any day than coming out flat."

Up next: After Game 2 the series moves to Oracle Arena for games 3 and 4 on Sunday and Tuesday.

Conference finals

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

Eastern Conference
Boston 1, Cleveland 0
Boston 108, Cleveland 83
Tuesday at Boston
Saturday, May 19: at Cleveland
Monday, May 21: at Cleveland
x-Wednesday, May 23: at Boston
x-Friday, May 25: at Cleveland
x-Sunday, May 27: at Boston

Western Conference
Houston vs. Golden State
Monday: Golden State 119, Houston 106

Wednesday: at Houston, **AFN-Sports:** 3 a.m. **Thursday, CET:** 10 a.m. **JKT:** Sunday: at Golden State
Tuesday, May 22: at Golden State
x-Thursday, May 24: at Houston
x-Saturday, May 26: at Houston State
x-Monday, May 28: at Houston

Monday

Warriors 119, Rockets 106

GOLDEN STATE — Igoudala 2-3 7-8 11, Durant 14-27 6-12, D.Green 1-5 3-4 5, Curry 8-15 1-2, Thompson 9-18 4-4 28, West 1-10 0-2, Looney 1-1 0-0, Livingston 3-5 1-1 7, Young 3-5 0-0 9. Totals 42-90 22-35 119.

HOUSTON — Ariza 3-8 1-1 8, Tucker 0-3 1-3 1, Capela 6-7 0-0 12, Paul 8-17 5-7 23, Harden 14-24 8-10 41, Mthabane 0-0 0-0 0, Anderson 0-1 0-0 0, Nene 0-1 0-0 0, G.Green 2-5 0-0 6, Gordon 6-13 0-10 5. Totals 39-85 15-21 106.

Golden State 29 27 31 32-119
Houston 39 26 24 26-106
Three-point goals—Golden State 13-33 (Thompson 6-15, Young 3-5, Durant 1-6, Curry 1-5, D.Green 0-1, Igoudala 0-1), Houston 13-37 (Harden 5-9, Gordon 3-7, G.Green 2-4, Paul 2-7, Ariza 1-5, Anderson 0-1, Tucker 0-2, Mthabane 0-0). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Golden State 37 (D.Green 9), Houston 42 (Paul 13). Assists—Golden State 24 (D.Green 9), Houston 18 (Harden 7). Total Fouls—Golden State 17, Houston 23. Technicals—D.Green, A—18-95 (18,955).

SPORTS



Knights' day

Marchessault scores two as Vegas
evens West finals » **NHL, Page 30**

NBA PLAYOFFS

Golden
opener

Durant helps Warriors steal
homecourt edge in Game 1

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Kevin Durant continues to deliver in the post-season for the Golden State Warriors.

He scored 37 points on Monday night to lead the Warriors to a 119-106 win in the long-awaited showdown with the Houston Rockets in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

But if it were up to him, he would have done even more.

Durant wasn't happy with coach Steve Kerr when he took him out in late in the third quarter and loudly asked his coach why he was putting him on the bench. Durant, who played just more than 40 minutes, was asked if he'd prefer to play the entire 48 minutes.

"Probably so," Durant said.

Kerr acknowledged that he should have left him in at that point and raved about his performance after his fourth 30-point game this postseason.

"This is why anybody would want him on their team ... I don't know what you do to guard him," Kerr said. "He can get any shot he wants."

Starting a playoff series on the road for the first time since 2014, the Warriors trailed by as many as 9 early, but had evened it up by halftime and used a big run at the beginning of the fourth quarter to pull away.

"We're in the Western Conference finals they are going to come out with a lot of energy," Durant said. "We're going to take that first punch and keep punching."

SEE GOLDEN ON PAGE 31



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Warriors forward Andre Iguodala, left, is fouled by Rockets guard Chris Paul during the second half Monday in Houston.



ERIC CHRISTIAN SMITH/AP

Warriors forward Kevin Durant, right, shoots over Rockets guard James Harden (13) in the second half during Game 1 of the Western Conference Finals on Monday in Houston.

Angels' Heaney strikes out 10 to top Astros » Page 29

